

ACROSS / A15

PNP claims polls peaceful but 29 dead

WORLD / A22

US got AIDS virus from Haiti in 1969, says study

NEWS / A6

More than 1,000 teachers have tuberculosis-DepEd

Poll watchdog wants only 'clean' people in Comelec BUSINESS / B1

Biofuel sector draws P34B in investments

Love bridges divide between living and dead

By Agnes Prieto Contributor

WITH UNRELENTING REGULARITY, I LOST the person I loved most every 10 years of

Love, however, is not lost, does not die. Many a bereaved person will attest that love bridges the divide between earth and heaven;



Wednesday, October 31, 2007

11 sections / Vol. 22 / No. 325 P18

Male drivers feel it's macho to drive fast

GENEVA-YOUNG men drive fast because speed is perceived as being inherently male, a team of Swiss and German researchers claimed in a study released on Monday.



Peso surges to 43.85/\$1

Central bank intervenes in market to ease pain of exporters, OFWs

By Doris C. Dumlao

THE PESO YESTERDAY broke into the 43 level for the first time in seven years on strong overseas remittances and stock market inflows after a long weekend.

The currency gained 21 centavos and closed at an intra-day peak of 43.85 from Friday's finish of 44.06 to the US dollar.

It was the strongest showing of the peso since touching 43.76 on July 6,

The peso's rally was nevertheless tempered by intervention from the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) and political jitters.

The peso, the second-best performing currency in Asia after the Indian rupee, has gained 12 percent against the US dollar so far this year from its finish of 49.03 last year.

With the peso expected to strengthen further toward the end of the year due to remittances from overseas Filipino workers (OFWs) for the long Christmas holidays, even exporters were unloading dollars through their banks yesterday, according to currency

Foreign inflows going to Philippine companies offering shares to the public such as Splash Corp., a beauty products manufacturer, also gave the peso a

TOMBS WITH A VIEW

At the South Cemetery in Makati City, graves are juxtaposed against the backdrop of the high-rise buildings of the central business district. Tomorrow, Filipinos will troop to the cemeteries to visit the graves of their loved ones.

Erap pardon makes lead prosecutor sick PNP firms up accidental gas explosion theory

By Volt Contreras

FOR THE LEAD PROSECUTOR WHO spent almost six years building a case against deposed President Joseph Estrada, the recent pardon granted to the convicted plunderer was apparently too much for his mind and body to

"I'm having bouts of insomnia again," former Ombudsman Simeon Marcelo confided, when asked yesterday how he was taking the executive clemency extended by President Macapagal-Arroyo to Estrada just six weeks after his conviction.

"You know, that mix of anger, depression, frustration," Marcelo, who quit the post in September 2006 reportedly for health reasons and has since returned to private law practice, told the INQUIRER in a phone interview from his office in Makati City.

By Christine O. Avendaño

CITING "A PREPONDERANCE" OF EVidence, Philippine National Police Director General Avelino Razon yesterday declared that the deadly blast at the Glorietta 2 mall on Oct. 19 was an accidental gas explosion.

The PNP chief also said his office

the cause of the explosion that killed and that it was winding down its inves-

The preponderance of the evidence shows it was an accidental gas explosion," Razon told reporters at Camp Bagong Diwa in Taguig City where he,

was now ruling out a bomb attack as along with President Macapagal-Arroyo and Interior Secretary Ronaldo 11 people and injured over 100 others, Puno, attended a training demonstration on antiterrorism by the PNP Special Action Force.

At a press conference in Malacañang, Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita said he had "asked around" and learned that investigators were sticking to the "septic tank theory."

So far, that's the [result of the investigation). There was methane gas that was developed because of the bad construction of the septic tank [in the Glorietta 2 basement]," said Ermita, who arrived yesterday from the United States.

Asked if the Arroyo administration PNP FIRMS UP/ A7

Abducted militant seeks SC protection

By Leila B. Salaverria

AN URBAN POOR LEADER, WHO WAS allegedly abducted in Cavite and later released by the military, yesterday asked the Supreme Court for a protection order for her and her two daughters under the newly effective writ of amparo.

Lourdes Rubrico, chair of the Ugnayan ng Maralita para sa Gawa at Adhikain Federation, which is affiliated

asked that the Office of the Ombudsman be directed to file kidnapping charges against her abductors and that the Ombudsman be reprimanded for not acting on her complaint quickly enough.

Rubrico, 63, said the 301st Air Intelligence and Security Squadron, based at the Philippine Air Force Field Station at Fernando Air Base in Lipa City, Batangas, should be inspected to de-

with the party-list group Gabriela, also termine where she had been detained.

The police and military should also produce their documents about her, and pay her and her daughters Jean Aprouebo and Mary Joy Carbonel P500,000 each for violating their

rights and sense of security. Named respondents were President Macapagal-Arroyo, Armed Forces Chief of Staff Gen. Hermogenes Esperon Jr.,

ABDUCTED/AI7

Cops get primer on how to treat young offenders

By Jocelyn R. Uy

EVEN IF THEY HAVE BLOOD ON their hands or have dealt in illegal drugs, children in conflict with the law should not be accosted with a gun or a truncheon, or be handcuffed.

Their offense and arrest must be ex plained to them in simple and pleasant words and a trip to a hospital or a clin ic, before they are turned over to social workers, is a must.

These and other do's and don't's po lice officers must keep in mind are in corporated in a five-series primer-the first extensive Filipino language hand book on the Juvenile Justice Welfare Act (Republic Act No. 9344)-which Plan Philippines launched yesterday in Makari City as a culminating activity for Children's Month.

Enacted in 2006, the landmark law aims to protect the rights of youth of fenders-those under 18-and keep them out of jail.

Written in simple Filipino terms, the primers highlight the following:

· Young offenders must not be

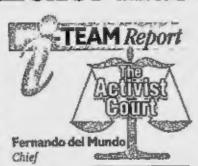
Judiciary flexes muscles on extrajudicial killings

By Leila B. Salaverria

(First of three parts)

THE WOUNDS INFLICTED by chain whips tipped with barbed wire have healed but bad dreams of the torture chambers where they had been taken during 18 months under military captivity rouse them from sleep most nights.

After a daring escape on Aug. 13 while their guards in a Pangasinan detention camp were having a drinking spree,



Raymond Manalo, 33, and his brother Reynaldo, 23, are now ensconced in an undisclosed place set up by the Free Legal Assistance Group (FLAG).

Life remains difficult for the two, both farmers and charcoal gatherers accused of being guerrillas of the communist New People's Army (NPA) and of murdering a member of the paramilitary Citizen Armed Porces Geographical Unit

Their movements are restricted. They cannot go to church, or meet with friends.

Nightmares about the ordeal the two brothers had undergone persist—the beatings with JUDICIARY/AI7 PUNO: History lesson

An unlikely revolutionary By Fernando del Mundo

Chief Justice Puno:

AS A YOUNG LAWYER, REYNATO Puno was part of the solicitor general's panel that defended before the Supreme Court President Perdinand Marcos' political moves that put the nation under dictatorial rule.

I remember one tragic hearing four months after martial law was

CHIEF/AIT

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST Northern Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao will experience mostly cloudy sides with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms. The rest of the country will have parity cloudy to cloudy stres with isolated rainshowers or thunderstorms.

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Clark Zone	Partly Cloudy	Gen. Sanlos	Mostly Cloudy
Tagaytay	Partly Cloudy	Zambonega	Mostly Cloudy
Legazei	Partly Cloudy	Cagayan de Bro	Mostly Cloudy
Calapun	Partly Cloudy	Barte	Mostly Cloudy
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'Name people above fray to Comelec'

Poll watchdog asks Palace not to appoint politicians to poll body

By Beverly T. Natividad and Christine O. Avendaño

THE CHURCH-BASED POLL WATCHDOG PARISH Pastoral Council for Responsible Voting (PPCRV) has asked Malacañang not to appoint anyone involved in politics to the vacant posts in the Commission on Elections (Comelec).

In an interview, PPCRV chair try's electoral process. Henrietta de Villa said that apis an independent constitutional body, must be above politics and nonpartisan since they would be in charge of the coun-

On Monday, acting Comelec pointees to the Comelec, which Chair Resurrection Z. Borra disclosed Malacañang's list of possible appointees to the four vacant seats.

The list included former President Joseph Estrada's lawyer ing the Comelec's comments on

Estrada's Rene Saguisag, spokesperson and Cagayan de Oro Rep. Rufus B. Rodriguez, former Sen. Wigberto Tañada, former University of the East law school dean and government corporate counsel Amado Valdez, Comelec law department director Alioden Dalaig, PPCRV chief legal counsel Howard Calleja and agriculturist Severo L. Maluenda.

Borra said the Office of the President Search Committee (OPSC) sent him a letter seek-

the potential appointees.

"The one who made this list should do away with nominating anyone in active politics." said De Villa.

De Villa said that while those on Malacañang's list were all "qualified and good men," the PPCRV would still prefer a selection process from which it could see how these men rate.

Palace officials, however, issued conflicting statements on the list.

Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita yesterday denied Malacañang had sent a shortlist to

the Comelec.

Ermita told reporters he could not recall signing any communication about some people being considered to fill the vacancies at the Comelec.

But earlier in the day, Interior Secretary Ronaldo Puno had said the shortlist came from the Palace and included nominees from the opposition.

We're open to any faction in the opposition," Puno said, adding that the shortlist was given to the Cornelec two weeks ago.

Borra also confirmed that the

list came from the Palace, but clarified that the Oct. 19 letter containing the list of nominees was signed by Undersecretary Enrique Perez of the OPSC, not by Ermita.

The PPCRV however, is proposing a selection process similar to that of the Judicial and Bar Council of the Philippines which recommends appointees to the Supreme Court.

This, De Villa said, would be the more transparent way of choosing appointees to the poll body. With Christian V Esquerra and Joce-

GMA-Erap alliance possible – Ermita

By Michael Lim Ubac and Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY EDuardo Ermita yesterday raised the possibility of a political alliance between President Macapagal-Arroyo and deposed President Joseph Estrada following her decision to free the convicted plunderer.

Ermita said on his return from the United States, where he defended the administration's human rights record, that he expected a "realignment of forces," specifically the "forces of President Estrada going along with the President."

He said such a marriage of political forces would be crucial bickering but also uplifting the lives of poor Filipinos.

"We can't belittle the popularity and influence of President Estrada on his supporters," Ermita said. But he said a government post for Estrada at this point was not in order because it would only confirm the suspicion that there were strings attached to the pardon.

Opposition senators are reserving their judgement on Estrada despite fears he has wavered in his anti-administra-

"Let's give him some time to adjust and give his side of the story," said Sen. Francis Escudero, who insisted that this was the dominant stand in the opposition. "We in the opposition should not react to divide and conquer tactics of the administration so quickly and easily," he said.

Sen. Panfilo Lacson remained confident Estrada's departure from the opposition's ranks would not divide the anti-Arroyo forces.

"Even if she gets the full support of Erap, somebody will emerge from the opposition who is stronger and more stable to fight for what is right and to correct the wrong things done by the Arroyo administration," said Lacson.

Sen. Richard Gordon continto not only putting an end to used to attack the grant of executive clemency to Estrada, saying the move was the mader of the corruption of our values."

"We have been practically marginalized by men and women who lost their moral moorings," he said. Everyone from the military to the church to the academe to politicians is tainted."

Sen. Francis Pangilinan said there was a need to "redraw political lines" between "forces representing politics as usual and forces that represent politics of performance, principles and conviction."

Tutors decry nonpayment of election allowance

TWO DAYS AFTER THE BARANgay and Sangguniang Kabataan elections, many public school teachers have yet to receive their poll duty pay, the Alliance of Concerned Teachers (ACT) said.

"Hundreds of thousands of teachers rendered invaluable service, ensuring the success of the barangay and SK polls. Ironically, many have not yet received a single centavo as compensation for their work," said ACT chair Antonio Tinio as he assailed the Commission on Elections for letting the teachers down yet again.

Robinson Appliances

Tinio told reporters teachers Caloocan, Malabon. Muntinlupa, Parañaque, Pasay, Pasig, Valenzuela in Metro Manila, and San Jose del Monte and Meycauayan in Bulacan had not yet received compensation.

A memorandum of agreement between the Comelec and the Department of Education provides that teachers serving in the Oct. 29 polls would receive a P3,000 honorarium and a P500 transportation allowance.

Half of the amount was to be paid upon the issuance of election paraphernalia and the balance up-

on the return of the poll materials, Acting Comelec Chair Resurreccion Borra told reporters the money for the teachers was disbursed by the Department of Budget and Management to the municipal treasurers over the weekend.

He said the DBM had disbursed some P466 million to cover the transportation of the teachers as-

signed to election duty on Oct. 29. Tinio said the teachers also complained about the drastically reduced poll pay.

In the past two elections, reachers received a P3,000 honorarium for election duties but this time the Comelec said it could afford to pay only P1,000.

ACT also denounced the alleged "harassment suffered by many teachers in the National Capital Region during the counting and canvassing of votes."

"Many teachers were detained by poli candidates and their supporters, preventing them from leaving school premises to turn over election paraphernalia to the Comelec," the group said.

ACT cited the case of teachers who served in 47 precincts at Urduja Elementary School in Caloocan City, who were "only allowed to leave the school premises at 12:30 a.m. (Tuesday), five hours after they had finished counting the votes.

"Similar incidents took place at Bagong Pag-asa, Fairview and Placido del Mundo elementary schools in Quezon City; Baclaran Elementary School in Parañaque; Imelda Elementary School in Malabon, and Silangan Elementary School in Taguig," said Tinio. Jerry E. Esplanada and Beverly T Natividad



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PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Papal envoy here tomorrow

to the Philippines Archbishop Edward Joseph Adams is arriving on Nov. 1.

Adams, who was named to the post by Pope Benedict XVI on Sept. 3, last served in Zimbabwe.

A papal nuncio or apostolic nuncio

NEWLY APPOINTED PAPAL NUNCIO is the permanent diplomatic representative of the Pope to a state or international organization.

Adams replaced Archbishop Fernando Filoni who was appointed Substitute of the Vatican Secretariat of

The new papal envoy, the 15th apostolic nuncio to the Philippines, was born in Philadelphia, USA, on Aug. 24, 1944. He was ordained a priest in 1970.

In a letter to the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines, Adams said, "As I prepare to come to the Philippines my only wish is that I may be of service to the Church, as I seek to represent worthily among you our Holy Father, whose ministry is essentially one of love."

Beverly T. Natividad



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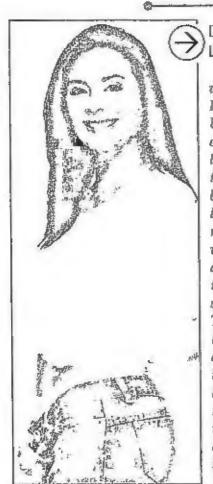
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Printing life

Ultrashape - Lipo Without The Suction continues to make waves in the slimming industry since its official launch in Manila early last year. Tagged as the first non-invasive breakthrough in body contouring, Ultrashape uses an ultrasound beam to breakdown and liquely fats from outside the body. Promising an average reduction of about 2cm in just one treatment, it effectively reduces fat deposits on multiple body areas such as the tummy, flanks and thighs.

A small amount of fat reduction is just not worth undergoing surgery for. Liposuction usually involves massive body contouring, and is often not recommended when only a few inches of fat have to be removed. Thus, for the majority of people who only need a few touch-ups, Ultrashape offers a much safer alternative. It gives the benefits of liposuction without the risks or side effects, surgical scars and downtime. The result: Smooth, even and shapely curves you can flaunt even without your clothes on!

Due to its increasing popularity, demand for Ultrashape is high often resulting to fully booked appointment schedules from its growing roster of clients. These women have testified - they have finally found the best alternative to liposuction!



Dawn Zulueta~ Lagdameo, 38

"When Ultrashape was offered to me, l was excited! Ultrashape concentrates on that last hard-to-lose fat that remains in your body even after you've lost weight. I told myself, at last, there was a chance to lose all that stubborn fat that just wouldn't seem to go away. The doctor explained that Ultrashape destroys the fat cells in the targeted areas like my stomach and thighs. From there, the fat is metabolized and burned naturally by my body as energy. The treatment takes

an hour and a half and is done once a mouth. Ultrashape is really the perfect finishing touch for people like me who have lost weight but still have some lumps and bumps. After my first treatment, I immediately said to myself 'wow, it's perfect!' Ultrashape definitely has all the benefits of lipo minus the surgery and all the risks! There's no downtime whatsoever. So you see, liposuction is unnecessary."



Lyn Ching-Pascual, 34

"What intrigued me about Ultrashape is the claim - the easy treatment you can have in your lunch break. Apart from that, a friend of mine said that her friend tried Ultrashape as soon as it came out in the market. And she immediately lost 2 inches in just one month! Ultrashape promises an average of about 2cm, that's true, but it's also

possible for someone to lose even more than that too. That's why for me, even if liposuction was the only weight-loss treatment available, I'd rather walk up a building 100 times than have an operation because I don't want the possibility of dying for vanity.

With Ultrashape around, everyone now gets a better slimming option. Since it's non-invasive, I've got nothing to worry about. After trying it firsthand, I was like, 'Is this real?!' I just walked in, got the treatment and after an hour, I was on my way back to work again! It's as if nothing happened. The best part was, I could feel my tummy flatten only after a few weeks! No doubt it's the perfect way to trim down excess fats!"



Cristina Gonzalez-Romueldez, 42

"Nothing really compares Ultrashape. When I tried it, I immediately lost 4cm in my tummy after only 1 session! Imagine what a couple of sessions more can do! Diet pills and crash dieting don't work for me. With my catering and events business, I can't just turn my back from tasting and savoring my own menus. More so, if it's lipo we're

going to compare Ultrashape with, lipo doesn't even come close to it as far as safety is concerned. Besides, with Ultrashape around, why would anyone still want to settle for liposuction?! I must be very desperate or I must be so fat that I could no longer move before I'd consider getting it done. I just find it too dangerous!" Undernably, Marie France's Ultrashape is solid proof that the trends in slimming now slant towards the approach that's safer yet as effective. After going through a weight-loss program, it is highly, recommended to continue with Ultrashape treatments right after. It's the best final touch-up fin gerting rid of remaining stubborn fats in the body. For booking schedules, call Marie France now at 894-BODY (2639); Cebu (032) 233-7637; Pampanga (045) 961-2981.



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Cash sits in safe while Pampanga gov awaits probe

By Tonette Orejas Inquirer Central Luzon

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO-Pampanga Gov. Eddie Panlilio said he would wait for the outcome of a congressional investigation into the funds handed out to officials in Malacañang before deciding whether to return it to the League of Provinces of the Philippines (LPP) which claimed it distributed the

"I feel we will wait for the meeting venue.

congressional hearing," Panlilio told the INQUIRER on Tuesday.

The P500,000 in cash Panlilio's chief of staff was handed by Bulacan Gov. Joselito Mendoza after a governors' meeting with President Macapagal-Arroyo at the Palace was in the provincial government's safe, he said.

Mendoza had reported receiving two gift bags containing P500,000 each from a woman in a room beside the

He said Interior Undersecretary Austere Panadero, Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corp. official Edward Plaza were also in the room.

'Symbol of illegal handouts'

"We will [keep] it [the money] for now. I feel it has become a symbol of illegal handouts and corruption that has to stop in Philippine society," Panlilio said.

Unlike Panlilio, Mendoza said he would not wait for the

congressional inquiry.

"Sabi sa akin for barangay projects (I was told it was for barangay projects). We will and a man he did not know use it for that purpose 'pag clear na lahat (when everything is clear)," Mendoza said they did not know such a prowhen asked why he had not returned the money to the LPP.

The P500,000 Mendoza received has been placed in the capitol's trust fund, he said.

Palawan Gov. Joel Reyes, LPP spokesperson, and Eastern Samar Gov. Ben Evardone, LPP secretary general,

first-term governors in Malacafiang had come from the league's capability-building ceipt for the money. program fund.

gram existed nor did they receive any funds from it during their first terms.

Panlilio had questioned done nearly two weeks to reveal where the money had come from, after a full-blown

controversy

had erupted

had said the money handed to around President Macapagal-Arroyo. He also questioned why he was not issued a re-

He said Reyes cancelled a But several governors said scheduled Oct. 24 meeting with him in Pampanga and had not replied to a proposed meeting in Makati City this

"Let the appropriate body why it took Reyes and Evar- look into this. Meanwhile, I will focus more on governance and the delivery of services. There is so much to do in Pam! panga," Panlilio said.

RAIREEVES & ASSOCIATES Ermita: No rift, no clue RGA Has Attorneys Who Ware Formarly Employed by The USCIS (previously INS). on Malacañang dole State Department (US Embassy), and The Immigration Courts.

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EXECUTIVE SECRETARY EDUARDO ERMITA was kept in the dark about the cash that was dispensed to legislators and governors in Malacañang following a meeting with President Macapagal-Arroyo on Oct. 11.

Ermita told a televised press conference yesterday he knew nothing about the P200,000 to P500,000 that was distributed allegedly by the League of Provinces of the Philippines (LPP).

Ermita said he did not approve of money being distributed in Malacañang regardless of who or what was behind it.

My golly, think about it, to do it right here in Malacañang, why, what for?" he said in English and Filipino.

But the thing is that I really never knew about it," he said, adding that if he had been consulted he would not have approved it.

Ermita denied rumors of a rift between him and Interior Secretary Ronaldo Puno, who is also the acting presidential political adviser, over the incident.

"To put everything to rest, don't easily be-

lieve rumors. It's not true. I'm still around. I'm glad where I am. I'm just doing my job as a public servant," said Ermita, who had just returned from a week-long trip to the United States.

Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye served as acting executive secretary during Ermita's absence. Ermita's sudden departure on Oct. 21 fueled speculation that he was on his way out because of differences with Puno.

Malacanang said Ermita flew to New York on an "official trip ... to meet with officials of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights."

It said Ermita's mission was to "personally update UN officials on government efforts in dealing with" the issue of extrajudicial killings in the Philippines.

Ermita earlier denounced the "misinformation" about him and Puno which he said was aimed at sowing discord among members of the Cabinet to give the impression that the administration was in disarray. He said he was sticking with the President. Michael Lim Ubac



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'JDV, son showed me no respect'

RETIBED ARMY COMMANDER the elder De Venecia's house, De los Lt. Gen. Jaime de los Santos felt he was "disrespected" by Speaker Jose de Venecia Jr. and his son, Jose III (Joey), when the two linked him to an alleged slay plot against them.

tract had been taken out on the lives of the De Venecias had come from them, not him.

"When you are invited to a house as a guest, you trust that you will be treated with respect. But no, they disrespected me by putting words in my mouth. That theory (of a slay plot) actually came from them, not me," he said.

Joey de Venecia went to Makati City police headquarters last week to file a complaint against Transportation and Communication Secretary Leandro Mendoza, Land Transportation Assistant Secretary Reynaldo Berroya and Bureau of Corrections chief Ricardo Dapat for purportedly hatching a plan to "liquidate" him and his father.

Joey pointed to De los Santos as the source of the information. De los Santos is a member of Philippine Military Academy Class of 1969, to which Mendoza and Berroya also belong.

While he did not deny going to

Santos said he did so on the former's invitation to discuss the Speaker's "moral recovery" program. Earlier, on Oct. 16, De los San-

tos, now a professor at the University of the Philippines, said he In a phone interview, De los met Joey de Venecia at a sympo-Santos said the claim that a con- sium at UP where the latter spoke about the cancelled \$329million National Broadband Network (NBN) deal.

I told him Secretary Mendoza was my classmate, and he said, 'Sir, I was informed that I should be fearing Secretary Mendoza (more) than (resigned Commission on Elections) Chair (Benjamin) Abalos," De los Santos said.

"That statement came from the mouth of De Venecia himself and not from me, and that was the first time I met him," De los Santos said.

On Oct. 19. De los Santos said he was told by lawyer Raul Lambino the Speaker wanted to see him to discuss his moral recovery program.

De los Santos said Joey de Venecia arrived later and told him he was going to the police to report the slay plot.

"So I said that it was his right and prerogative [to do so] as a citizen," De los Santos said.

Risa T. Olchondra

Corrections

IN THE OCI: 26 ISSUE, a front-page article- "JDV son says GMA behind ZTE deal"-erroneously attributed to Commission on Higher Education Chair Romulo Neri the following statement: "Secretary Neri's response to that was, 'Mo'am, hindi po ako ganong klaseng tao.' It was only at this point that the President said that Huwag mo nang tanggapin pero i-approve mo ang project." The statement was made by businessman Jose de Venecia III during the Senate hearing on Oct. 25.

IN THE OCT. 27 ISSUE, a headline on Page A7-BID stops Naia escort racket"-misstated the acronym for the Bureau of Immigration. The agency's acronym is BI-not BID.

IN THE OCT. 29 ISSUE, the front-page banner story—"Estrada backs away from GMA-quit call -misstated the year when the "Hello Garci" controversy rocked the Arroyo presidency. The controversy reached its height in 2005—not last year.

IN THE SAME ISSUE, Ramon J. Parolan's Reveille column on Page A15 of the Opinion section-"An Indian-American wins in the Deep South"-misspelled the name of an Asian country. The country's name is Afghanistan—not Afganistan.

Readers may send their requests for correction of factual errors in writing to the Day Desk, Philippine Daily Inquire; PDI Building, Chino Roces Avenue corner Mascardo Street, Makati City, fax Nos. 897-47-93/94; e-mail address: daydesk@inquirer.com.ph.

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IUSTICE FOR ALL

Members of the Volunteers Against Crime and Corruption (VACC) rally in front of the statue of Benigno "Ninoy" Aquino Jr. on Ayala Avenue in Makati City to protest President Macapagal-Arroyo's pardon of convicted plunderer Joseph Estrada.



Erap ...

From page A1

"You worked so hard for so long (to win a conviction) and when you did win you had that feeling of relief and thought that the system worked," he said.

"But then after one and half months you find the administration of the judicial system being undermined and short-circuited," Marcelo said.

"Why so soon?" he wondered aloud in Filipino.

On Monday, Marcelo and 20 other private lawyers who assisted the public prosecutors in the Estrada plunder trial for free issued a joint statement vehemently opposing the pardon.

"Is this a conspiracy between the two

"Is this a conspiracy between the two Presidents against the interest of the Filipino people, a negation of what would have otherwise been a resounding victory in the Filipinos' fight against graft and corruption?" the lawyers asked.

Marcelo clarified yesterday that he and the lawyers were merely airing their suspicion that a deal had been sealed between Ms Arroyo and Estrada.

Signs of a deal

But when asked what he thought would be the "signs" that such a deal had been reached, Marcelo remarked:

"When you start seeing the opposition dividing, when the impeachment complaint (against the President) fails to gain support from those identified with Estrada, that's when you can have a basis to insinuate (that there was a conspiracy).

As a member of the prosecution panel, Marcelo first became Estrada's courtroom tormentor in December 2001 in his aborted impeachment trial.

Shortly after Estrada's ouster, President Arroyo appointed Marcelo solicitor general in February 2001 and then Ombudsman in October 2002, succeeding the retiring Aniano Desierto. By then Estrada's plunder trial had been under way in the Sandiganbayan antigraft court.

Mock funeral procession

Civil society members, garbed in black and carrying a cardboard coffin, marched down Ayala Avenue in Makati City's central business district yesterday to pronounce justice dead with Estrada's pardon.

"I would have been somewhat happy if he at least spent one day in prison," said Lauro Vizconde of the Volunteers against Grime and Corruption during the mock funeral procession.

Vizconde, whose family was killed in a gruesome massacre in 1991, was joined by about 30 other demonstrators, including lawyer Leonard de Vera of the No Pardon for Erap Movement.

"The worse part is his attitude. He has shown no remorse at all and has insisted on his innocence," De Vera said.

The group assembled near the Makati Central Fire Station on Gil Puyat Avenue and began their march at past 10 a.m., carrying Philippine flags, placards and streamers denouncing the Estrada pardon.

Some of the placards read: "Jaywalking penalty: fine and jail. Plunder penalty: pardon. Wow, only in the Philippines," "Justice died on Oct. 26," "Free all 70-year-olds like Erap," and "No act of contrition from Erap: Why grant pardon?"

Diminished stature

Cagayan de Oro Rep. Rufus Rodriguez yesterday said the pardon to Estrada "would certainly lessen his stature as the leader of the opposition."

"He had always been declaring that he was innocent. I would have preferred that he continued as an uncompromised, de facto leader of the opposition," said Rodriguez, spokesperson of Estrada's Puwersa ng Masang Pilipino.

Anakpawis Rep. Crispin Beltran said Estrada "should take a more defined stand and prove that he has not capitulated to the administration."

"It could well be that he is still hoping to regain control over all the assets, stocks, shares and even mansions that were sequestered by the government when he was arrested and charged with plunder," Beltran said. With reports from DJ Yap and Christian V. Esguerra



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Conference Parmers











More than 1,000 tutors have TB, DepEd reveals

By Jerry E. Espianada

teachers are afflicted with tuberculosis or TB, according to the Health and Nutrition Center of the Department of Education.

HNC director Thelma Santos, however, said "the situation has improved lately."

She recalled that "during the mid-1990s, the number of teachers suffering from TB reached over 2,000."

The DepEd is "closely monitoring the health condition of the teacher-patients," Santos told the INQUIRER.

She pointed out that "unlike in the past, the center's TB case findings are now more extensive. The HNC's advocacy program has also improved."

Of the 150,000-plus DepEd personnel who underwent chest X-rays in the first six months of the year, at least 1,821 showed "lesions suggestive of TB," said an HNC re-

At least 642 of more than 1,000 TB-positive teachers underwent treatment.

There were no deaths reported, according to the HNC mid-year accomplishment

Financial assistance

The DepEd earlier signed a memorandum of agreement with the Department of Health which called for free medical treatment for teachers with TB.

In the provinces, municipal and city health offices are handling their treatment. They're also given free medicines," said Santos.

In Metro Manila, teacher-patients can go to the Teachers' Pavilion of the Quezon Institute, located at the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office complex on Eulogio Rodriguez Avenue in Quezon City.

The DepEd is currently renovating the

Teachers' Pavilion "in close coordination with the Philippine Tuberculosis Society MORE THAN 1,000 PUBLIC SCHOOL and the Philippine Public School Teachers Association," which owns the property.

The 20-bed pavilion, which also handles cardiac disease and diabetes, among other health problems, gets an annual allocation of P1 million from the DepEd.

More help for teachers

The pavilion's renovation is part of the department's "thrust to deliver health services to both teaching and non-teaching personnel of the DepEd," noted Education Secretary Jesli A. Lapus.

Lapus stressed the need to "take care of the well-being of our teachers because the state of their health directly affects the performance of our students.'

The DepEd also plans to provide financial assistance to TB-positive teachers.

Teachers who are sick with TB are required to go on leave for a long period of time. And they do not get any pay while on leave," Santos pointed out.

But Undersecretary Teodosio Sangil "is working on this. We're pushing for a leave with pay program for TB-positive teachers. Substitute teachers will temporarily take their place while they're on leave," Santos said.

Meanwhile, the DepEd continues to help teachers in areas hit by typhoons and other disasters "recover from physical, emotional or psychological trauma."

In Bicol alone, nearly 9,000 teachers and non-teaching personnel took part in what the department calls "psycho-social intervention programs."

Resource persons from the National Center for Mental Health and the National Center for Disease Prevention and Control of the health department, as well as HNC staff conducted the training program.

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GMA reaching out to Chavit, says Palace

By Christine O. Avendaño

MALACAÑANG IS REACHing out to flocos Sur Gov Luis "Chavit" Singson who has from President Macapagal-Arroyo for pardoning convicted plunder Joseph Estrada.

Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita yesterday said he was "very sure" that panied by boxing icon Man-President Macapagal-Arroyo would not allow things to worsen with Singson.

harmony, especially with ailies, the President will not allow this thing to happen," Ermita told reporters.

President is doing something to reach out to Gover- na karning lahat (We felt that Estrada's plunder case.

was finally ruling out terrorism as the motive, he said: "As you know, I am the chair-

man of the Anti-Terrorism Council. Hari-

nawa na hindi dun pumunta sa terrorism, at

sa akin ang tama nyan (Hopefully, the in-

vestigation will not point toward a terror

of the activist scientist group Agham (or

Samahan ng Nagtataguyod ng Agham at

Teknolohiya para sa Sambayanan), said an

independent inquiry should be carried out

credible explanation for the blast," Tapang

"[Such an inquiry will] give the public a

Razon said he had informed Ms Ar-

royo of the findings that hewed to the

PNP theory-that a combination of methane gas from sewage pipes and

diesel fumes from a tank, both located in

the mall basement, had triggered the ex-

dence and facts that were gathered at the

"Those are the findings based on the evi-

Earlier, the Glorietta owner, Ayala Land Inc. (ALI), said the conditions at the base-

But according to Razon, foreign experts who helped the PNP in the investigation are

He said the US Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Australian Federal Police and Is-

raeli bomb experts were submitting their

who headed the inquiry into the explosion, was collating the reports that he expected

He also said Chief Supt. Luisito Ticman,

Asked whether the findings meant that

ALI would be held liable for the explosion,

Razon said: "That is another matter that we

Agham's

ment could not have led to such a massive

But Dr. Giovanni Tapang, national chair

attack because I will be blamed)."

to pursue all angles.

said in a statement.

Fatal combination

scene," Razon said.

backing its findings.

reports with similar findings.

to receive "in a few days."

Chain of events

investigators."

Tapang said the investigators should be able to explain the chain of events:

If it was a gas explosion, how was the methane blast triggered? And how did the diesel tank fig-

But

From page Al

nor Singson," he added, we were dumped)," he said. saying he would not be surprised if Ms Arroyo had already made such a move.

threatened to break away Singson was a "very important political personality ... a political leader of note."

Singson returned to his province yesterday in a festive mood. He was accomny Pacquiao.

Asked about the Estrada case, Singson said: "I am "For the sake of unity and studying carefully my next steps so wait for it."

The star witness in the plunder case against Estrada said that when he heard that "It's safe to say that the the former President had been

PNP firms up accidental

"I am very sad. The case could have given us a good lesson, but in the end, [all Ermita pointed out that our efforts] went [to] naught," Singson said.

He said he felt sad because of the pardon's impact on the country's judicial system.

"Why did we make the plunder law when we will not follow it?" he said.

Singson apologized to all people who helped in building the case against Estrada and helping in his prosecution.

He cited his secretary, Marilyn Perez, who was gunned down in Manila in 2005. Singson said among Perez's job was to coordipardoned, "Parang ibinasura nate with witnesses in









Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 4842 Series of 2007

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RDX-a major component of the controlled military explosive C4-at the site. "If we follow the PNP explanation that

RDX is found even in ordinary aerosols, why is it being used to flag C4 use and why was it significant enough to be detected by the PNP chemist? These questions need to be clarified," Tapang said.

He added: "To avoid the confusion brought about by the conflicting theories of the police and the government, an independent probe should be done to pursue all angles and explain the explosion. It should involve independent scientists and engineers that can offer their expertise in solving the blast."

'Hopefully ...'

Ermita said the investigation had not yielded any trace of a bomb attack.

"So all I said, hopefully, that's the truth," he said, stressing that if an "explosive device" were involved, "that will have a major political repercussion."

"Imagine, foreign investors will be scared that Makati or Manila had been bombed. But I hope we can prove eventually the theory about the septic blast," he said.

On Oct. 23, senior government officials expressed "a high level of certainty" that the explosion was an accident.

Speaking with reporters after a meeting of the National Security Council, Puno said authorities had yet to make a conclusion on the cause of the blast, which was why the terrorism angle was still being studied.

"[But] I'm confident that's where we are headed because ... the reports that I have seen will give you a very high confidence level on the accuracy of their conclusion that it

is in fact an accidental explosion," Puno said. He pointed out that RDX was also found in aerosol and deodorants, which ex-

plained its presence in the area. Razon and Gonzales echoed Puno's re-

Gonzales cited the "high certainty" that the explosion was "a failure [in] public safety."

Razon said it was an "accidental gas explosion" based on "facts at the scene." With

will look into based on the conclusion of the a report from Michael Lim Ubac What's in alname What's in your

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ure in the explosion? He said that "since Day 1," government officials had been "putting their own spin to the blast without presenting solid evidence.'

Tapang said National Security Adviser Norberto Gonzales and other officials were "quick to pounce on the terrorism angle, while the PNP theories ranged from a diesel tank to the current methane gas explosion."

"All their subsequent statements have lost credibility" because of "their shooting-from-thepronouncements," he said.

On the other hand, Tapang said, "there is still the RDX finding ... that has yet to be explained."

He was referring to the early statement of the head of

Peso surges to 43.85/\$1

From page Al

strong boost, traders said.

Asked whether the sharply appreciating peso was a concern for the central bank, BSP Deputy Governor Diwa Guinigundo told reporters: "It's always a concern and the role of the BSP in the foreign exchange market [is] precisely to moderate the volatilities."

Traders estimated that the BSP yesterday bought at least \$200 million from the Philippine Dealing System (PDS), the spot foreign exchange market.

Aside from inflows that accumulated during the three-day weekend, expectations of more foreign money pouring in this coming long weekend propped up the peso despite rough re-

MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. RIG-2007-892

Others Concerned

East Avenue, Quezon City.

3. All imported motorcycles.

missions; and

D. DEFINITION OF TERMS:

A buyer in good faith is

motor vehicle; and

B. GENERAL PROCEDURE:

Submission of:

Output :

Output:

duties to owner

Step 3 - LTO Registration Section

Step 4 - LYO District Office

CSR

F. VENUE OF REGISTRATION

district offices only:

shall be deat with accordingly.

Confirmation of OR

a. LTO CP confirmation

PNPTMG Clearance

imported motor vehicles

Smoke Emission Test

Diffman District Office

Quezon City District Office

Caloocan City District Office

shall be furnished the originating agency.

a month to the Registration Section - Central Office.

Pasay City District Office

BOC/PASG Clearance

C. EXCLUSION

This MC covers buyers in good faith of:

Program (MVDP) of the government;

the seller of the motor vehicle:

Letter-Request of the applicant

Certificate of Registration (CR)

Texpayer's Identification Number (TIM).

Stancils of engine and chasels number

Certification of Stock Reported (CSR)

Appropriate Insurance Certificate of Cover

Note: For owners of imported motor vehicles outside the NCR, the actual

inspection shall be done at the district office negrest their residence.

1. For effective monitoring of the registration of these imported motor vehicles initiationiginal registration shall be restricted to the following

2. For renewal registration, the originating district office shall be furnished

a photocopy of the amendment of the CP and the BOC/PASG dearance.

For irrester of ownership, it shall be effected at the aforeclied four (4)

district offices provided confirmation of the documents shall be done

and a copy of the amendment of the CP and the BOC/PASG dearence

All registering district offices, new and renewel, shell submit a report twice

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(Sod.) REYNALDO L BERROYA

Assistant Secretary

Output : Indorsement to the BOC/PASG for appropriate action

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The following imported motor vehicles are excluded from this MC:

Transportation District Officers

05 October 2007

TO

SUBJECT

The Philippine markets were closed on Monday due to the barangay elections. The markets will again pause for a long weekend break starting Thursday as the nation is set to commemorate All Saints' Day.

Guinigundo said the net impact of a strong peso on the economy was still positive, especially in light of skyrocketing oil prices, because it was helping lower the cost of imports.

brought about by the continuing increase in petroleum prices in the world market," he said.

A strong peso is seen as an indicator of confidence in the domestic economy, according to the BSP deputy governor. It also helps the national government

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All Regional Directors, Assistant Regional Directors

(BOC) and the Land Transportation Office (LTO).

the following implementing rules and regulations shall be observed:

Pursuant to the provisions of the Memorandum of Agreement dated 07 August 2007

signed by the BOC and this Office relative to the collection of duties and taxes and

the registration of imported motor vehicles primarily concerning buyers in good faills.

To pursue a concerted action to collect tuxes and duties on imported motor

vehicles in consonance with the national initiative to generale more revenue

for the government by establishing One-Stop-Shop at the LTO Compound.

All CBUs from imported replacement parts indicated only by the engine

Motor Vehicles imported pursuant to the Motor Vehicle Development

Motor Vehicles imported by embassies, consulates and other diplometic

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indicated the payment of duties and taxes for the whole motor vehicle

by the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) accredited rebuilders

One who is not the importer of the motor vehicle nor has acted as agent for the importer in effecting the importation but who is able to identify

One who has verified the existence/genulneness of the BOC CP and

the LTO Certificate of Registration (CR) at the time of purchase of the

Latest Official Receipt (OR) of payment of registration fees

Actual Inspection of motor vehicle with duly accomplished and

Issuance of Official Receipt covering payment of taxes and

issuance of original copy of Cartificate of Payment (CP) to be

Issuance of Official Receipt covering payment of taxes and

Certificate of Compliance to Emission Standard (CCES) for used

All original BOC Certificate of Payments shall be forwarded to the LTO

Registration Section, Central Office through an official courier.

3. One who has no personal knowledge that the motor vehicle was imported

without payment of taxes and dubes or with deficiencies.

Step 1 - Office of the Assistant Secretary thro the Executive Director

approved Motor Vehicle Inspection Report (MVIR)

implementing Rules and Regulations for the Registration of Imported

Motor Vahicles Acquired by Buyers in Good Faith Pursuant to the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) Between the Bureau of Customs eign debts, freeing up more funds for infrastructure and social spending.

Exporters lose

The biggest losers in the strengthening peso are the exporters, who suffer from shrinking earnings when their dollars are converted into pesos and from less competitive prices in the giobal market.

Handicraft exporter Loida "It mitigates the pressures Rapal said she lost about P20 million so far this year because her company was forced to cancel products quoted to huge American buyers at a higher exchange rate.

> Losses would have been bigger if her company shipped out the products at the originally agreed exchange rate, she said.

Rapal's Las Piñas-based company, RH Excelorafts, sells bandicrafts made from aboca, vines, buri, bamboo and paper pulp to huge American retailers, such as Wal-Mart, MarMaxx and Target.

Explore other businesses

Rapal said big buyers were not willing to share the cost of foreign exchange fluctuations, "The buyers say it's not their fault. So a lot of exporters are crying. Many are closing shop," she said.

Her family-owned enterprise has been forced to redesign some products and explore other businesses to stay afloat.

Rapal has now gone into local retailing and wholesaling of consumer goods, motor parts and accessories.

But she said the export business was good for the Philip-

trim the cost of servicing its for- pines these days in terms of demand because a lot of foreign buyers, who wanted to avoid buying from China due to quality control issues, were increasingly looking for supplies in the country

"(T)he observed slowdown in exports cannot be totally attributed to a very strong peso," Guinigundo said.

US slowdown

Guinigundo said the slowdown in the United States, the world's biggest economy, was another factor hurting local exporters. Some 20 percent of Philippine exports go to the United States.

He said prices of electronics across the globe were sharply going down because manufacturers were becoming more efficient due to innovations.

"So our domestic exports should continue to re-engineer and reinvest," Guinigundo said.

OFW households

A stronger peso also affects OPW households that receive remittances denominated in US

But OFWs working in the Middle East and Asia are benefiting from the appreciation of the currencies in these markets. according to Guinigundo.

While 51 percent of all overremittances coursed 2698 through banks seemed to be coming from the United States, this may not be entirely accurate.

Guinigundo noted that most of these remittances go through the United States for clearing first before being remitted to

the Philippines. So banks end up reporting them as coming from America.

A new BSP study on remittances suggested that overseas Filipinos' decision to remit was being influenced by exchange rate movements. The study also said that "remitters are influenced by investment opportunities even more so than altruistic considerations."

A strengthening Philippine economy could lead to a peso appreciation and this necessitates a higher amount of dollar remittance if the remitter needs to provide for a fixed family budget in peso terms, the BSP paper said.

The reverse is expected in a weakening economy, as the resulting peso depreciation leads to a smaller amount of dollar remittance.

The BSP study found that remittances were "procyclical," tending to rise when economic activity improves and decline when economic conditions weaken.

Bucking regional trend

Currency traders said trading across other emerging markets in Asia was choppy yesterday ahead of the US Federal Reserve's setting of interest rate this week.

The US central bank is expected to cut its benchmark interest rates anew by 25 basis points.

A cut in the US Fed rate will drive investors to seek higher yields from emerging markets like the Philippines.

But if the US Fed decides to keep its rates unchanged, traders said it would result in a large correction favoring the greenback.

Currency traders said the peso

surged early yesterday despite the BSP's sporadic buying of dollars to slow down its appreciation.

Chavit Singson

But traders said some players covered their positions later on rumors that Ilocos Sur Gov. Luis "Chavit" Singson, the star witness at the impeachment trial six years ago against then President Joseph "Erap" Estrada, was set to hold a press conference.

Singson is against Ms Arroyo's decision to pardon Estrada, who was convicted of plunder last month.

There are emerging political risks because if the opposition withdraws the weak impeachment complaint against President Macapagal-Arroyo and files a new one, JDV (Speaker Jose de Venecia Jr.) may allow it to go through Congress. So it will be like a coup," a currency trader said.

Impeachment complaints against Ms Arroyo in 2005 and 2006 were rejected by the House of Representatives.

But reports of a falling out between Ms Arroyo and De Venecia over the scuttled National Broadband Network (NBN) project raised questions about the President's support in Congress.

De Venecia's son has linked Ms Arroyo's husband to the awarding of the \$329-million contract for the NBN project to China's ZTE Corp. Jose 'Joey" de Venecia III claims that the contract was overpriced and that it was tainted by offers of bribery.

But fresh supply of dollars poured in at the PDS when exporters started selling their dol-

Love bridges divide between living and dead

From page Ai

it looks for ways to become real for us, earth-bound and sad.

Our dear departed are just around the corner, for a fact. Oh, they don't drop in for tea just any time, but the other side of having been beset by so many people dying on me is this knowledge: Love prevails beyond matter.

This is a different kind of love story. Skeptics may say it's all coincidence, but there is a consistency in the events that happen over and over to various bereaved persons.

In a way it confirms that when the grieving is over, we realize that our sadness was for ourselves, bereft of the beloved presence. The ones we love go on to

where they have to be. They are fine, and so we ought to be, too. And time and again, I have been reminded of that-from the other side.

Efren

I was 27 with two little boys in tow and pregnant with my daughter Priena when Efren, my first husband, died in a plane crash.

My world turned upside down. I didn't know a thing about anything.

So I whispered an anxious prayer to Efren: "You can't do this to me, this is so unfair. I don't know what to do."

Chiding him across the divide worked. Every time I felt that things were just going to fall apart, help would come immediately, with such consistency.

I was due for a caesarean section (because I was six months pregnant when he died) and needed a sum of money. I was so worried, but only for a moment.

Suddenly the phone rang and a voice announced that I had to pick up a check for more than the amount I needed to deliver my daughter. It was part of his insurance plan.

Efren was young love, first love, and as a Philippine Military Academy cadet up in Baguio, he wrote to me every day (as attested by his roommate, whom I would meet again 30 years after he died).

Unopened letters

Later, as the painful reality of his passing was settling in, I found a batch of letters in the most unlikely place—the utility closet in the officers' quarters where we lived.

The letters, unopened, were from him to me, written before

we were to marry and before he with the colors that he wore enough-and the response was to go to battle (this was in when he was alive. the 1970s).

He said he could hear the

sound of bombs in the distance; he was afraid and full of uncertainty. The only thing he could be sure of, he said, was his love that would endure despite death.

It was what I needed to hear most at that moment, in the depths of my loneliness. Only later would I wonder why those letters were unopened, and why they were in the utility area. All I know now is they were a direct ing for me. response to how I felt.

This went on and on-my young son would wake up at 2 a.m., calling out "Daddy" in the dark and saluting as he had been taught to-until I perceived the consistent pattern.

I whispered another prayer again ("If this is really you, send white flowers") and forgot all about it. Then, on All Souls' Day, what I saw on his grave was astounding-e profusion of white orchids from top to bottom. "All right, it is you, all right,

thank you!" I whispered.

The orchids were from then President Ferdinand Marcos. (My husband had died in a crash of the presidential plane.)

Butterfly story

The manifestations come from the other side in various ways-through light, sound and butterflies.

Mao Cardenas is a member of the Healing Circles Grief Recovery Group, which we cofounded for people undergoing loss.

This is Mao's butterfly story: It's been 10 years since my husband, Jose Cardenas III, died, but whenever his death anniversary, his birthday, or our wedding anniversary comes, he sends me messages of presence and love through butterflies and/or moths. Many years before he passed

on, he and his siblings made a pact that whoever died ahead of the rest would use butterflies to relay the message that he or she was "all right."

I have had quite a number of butterfly experiences.

Just last Thursday, two days before his anniversary, my granddaughter Ahnira and her nanny entered my parents' home through the kitchen. As soon as they did, a butterfly started flying around.

Of course, Almira was delighted. The nanny, who had helped me take care of him during his last few months, told herself, This is he, a butterfly

Waiting for me

Later in the day, the nanny was leading Aimira toward my office. Almira noticed that the same butterfly had landed on her culottes and she shouted, "Look, Yaya, it's the butterfly!"

She took hold of it, laughing with joy, and when they reached my office, let go of it. Well, I found that same butterfly in a corner of the room when I arrived hours later, as if wait-

I cap my butterfly story with the last experience I had, said

At a workshop I was attending, a beautiful white butterfly quietly flew into the circle three meters away from me. And as if it had gotten my attention, it turned around and settled on the lower part of the screen.

Its "whiteness" was something I had never seen before-it seemed to reflect a bluish color at its edges every time it moved its wings. And it looked delicately silky and soft.

Two days earlier, I had begged my God to show me a white butterfly.

My God did more than that. He made me see a beautiful butterfly that was pure, at peace, and at rest.

Love of her life

Rina Nuvalles lost her husband George quite suddenly. He was playing basketball when he had a heart attack and died on the spot.

Rina was devastated; she and her two little girls, Arielle and Noelle, had centered their lives and their love around George. He was the love of her life.

And the girls were not ready to let go. They dressed a huge pillow in George's shirts and called it Daddy, hugging it and taking it with them in the car when they went out. Rina tried to explain George's

passing by saying, "Jesus needed someone to teach Him how to play basketball." After some time, one of them

piped up; "Isn't Daddy coming back soon? By now Jesus would know how to play basketball already." Rina has a long list of connec-

tion stories. The suddenness of George's passing perhaps drew his spirit to this earthly plane in order to wrap things up for his very young family.

She recounted incidents when she needed funds or felt that what she had was not call 0922-8221512.

from the other side: I had wanted to buy some

things for myself but felt that we needed the money for the girls, so I held back. There was a cute belt and a bag I wanted, and a rosary as well, but I thought I would wait for better times.

That same afternoon, a friend of mine who is a stewardess dropped by with her pasalubong-a similar belt and bag plus a rosary that had been blessed by the Pope.

"Another time, I was so down on funds. I wanted to take the girls to the mall but settled on cleaning the house instead.

"I noticed that George's golf bag in a corner of the room had not been touched. I set myself to clean it and took out the clubs. I noticed a lumpy thing at the bottom.

"I pulled it out. It was an envelope, and inside was P30,000. That was much more than we needed for the malli"

2 dozen roses

Rina also has a story about the two dozen white roses that George always gave her on their anniversary.

When she and the children went to the memorial park on their anniversary, she was amazed to find two dozen roses on George's grave. They had been put there by the florist from whom George always bought flowers.

She also recalled one instance, the eve of her birthday, when her children were fast asleep:

"I was soooo broken inside. I cried and cried and cried, and perhaps cried myself to sleep. I spoke to him in my mind-Wherever you are, do you remember? You gave me the happiest nine birthdays of my life. You always gave me those simple surprises. You made me so happy! You carnot surprise me now. I am missing that already.

"I was awakened by the sound of the cell phone, the one that he gave me. I saw on the screen: Reminder: Honey's Birthday!" It was sent at 5:30 a.m., the time when he would wake up, kiss me and prepare to go to his office.

There was no mistake, he woke me up with a kiss that morning. And he gave me a simple surprise—a message that he never forgets my birthday, and he will always stay ... "

Healing Circles Grief Recovery Group meets every third Thursday of the month. For inquiries,

(POI - Oct. 31, 2(07)

H. PENALCLAUSE

I. REPEALING CLAUSE

Cops get primer on how to treat ...

From page Ali

locked up in any detention cell

 Male police officers should only frisk male offenders while female officers should only inspect their own kind.

· Handouffs, guns or batons must not be used against them.

 The police must always identify themselves through their badge or identification card.

· If these children need detention while awaiting turnover to the local social welfare and development office (LSWDO), they must be temporarily entrusted to the care of their parents, relatives, social workers or faith-based organization.

· Authorities must explain to young offenders in simple terms why they are being arrested.

· Police officers must let the parents or relatives of a young offender know about the arrest within eight hours.

· Children in conflict with the law must undergo mental and physical exams before they are surrendered to the LSWDO.

Global links

A nonprofit organization linked with 64 countries worldwide, Plan Philippines works to support the development of children, their families, and communities in eight of the country's poorest provinces.

These are in Masbate, Isabela, Occidental Mindoro, Eastern Samar, Western Samar, Northern Samar, Southern Leyte and Cebu's Camotes Island.

But its concept on "restorative justice" has remained vague, or complicated, to the public, including its key stakeholders, such as social workers, the police, barangay officials, parents and children, according to the group.

Held in clammy jails

Even with the existence of the law, more than 1,000 children in conflict with the law are still languishing in clammy and congested jails together with adult criminals.

ment of Social Welfare and Development show that as of July 2007, there are 4,039 young of-

fenders nationwide. Of these number, more than 300 are detained at the New Bilibid Prisons, 590 are locked up in city jails, 406 in police detention cells and 367 under the custody of local government or nongovernment agencies.

With Dutch help

Plan Philippines thought of publishing and distributing 6,000 of the brightly illustrated booklets using P850,000 of a \$274,000 grant extended by the Dutch government, said Leonila Melendrez, the group's country program advisor for child protection.

"We hope that through these primers, people would be able to understand and know the consequences of the law," she

Five kinds of primers have been printed discussing the different procedures which social workers, police officers, parents, children and barangay officials should follow from the arrest to the arraignment of the child in court.

Biboy and Ging-ging

Each booklet narrates the story of two teenagers, Biboy and Ging-ging, who were arrested and maltreated while under police custody for stealing goods from a variety store in their neighborhood.

Ging-ging, 14, was made to entertain police officers on night duty by dancing to a Sexbomb ditty. Biboy, 16, was locked up in a cramped detention cell with other criminals.

"Ging-ging and Biboy are actually real persons from a real case in Mashate last year," Melendrez told the INQUIRER.

Drawing from the horrible experiences of the two children, the primers discuss procedures

for arresting children. The primers intended for the

Records from the Depart- social workers and the barangay officials introduce the concept of diversion.

Under the law, diversion is an alternative process of determining the responsibility and treatment of youth offenders on the basis of his or her social, economic, psychological or educational background without resorting to formal court proceedings.

This distribution of primers will really help a lot in educating our communities on how to deal with our children in conflict with the law," said Social Welfare Secretary Esperanza Cabral.

This would also pave way in the release it was for this reason that of those who are still languishing in our jails to rehabilitation homes or their families."

The DSWD has allotted P50 million to help implement the Juvenile Justice Welfare Act, Cabral said. Of that amount, P22 million will be used for building transition homes for young offenders nationwide.

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Male drivers feel it's macho to drive fast

From page Ai

The scientists at the Universities of Zurich, Neuchatel and Heidelberg found that men who were exposed to a "typically male environment" drove "significantly" faster than when they were in a female or neutral environments.

The study involved 83 male students, aged 20 to 27, who were placed in driving simulators, according to Neuchatel psychology professor Marianne Schmid Mast.

The subjects accelerated when they were played words "muscle" as "beard"-which were taken to evoke masculine traits-over the car radio in the simulated male environment.

In the female environment, words like "lipstick" or "pink" were played and the subjects drove about two kilometers an

hour slower Similar results were obtained with the simulatenvironneutral ment--words like "table" or "chair."

The study was prompted by concern about the high proportion of young men involved in road accidents linked to speeding.

Schmid Mast said the results were statistically significant.

"The link between a macho attitude and aggressive driving has often been evoked but it hadn't been demonstrated," she told Agence France Presse.

According to the researchers, the findings could help design road safety campaigns that dissociate speed from masculinity, such as by showing seven times Formula One motor racing champion Michael Schumacher driving slowly on normal roads.

Schmid Mast said she hoped to conduct a similar study with a group of women.

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PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER OCTOBER 31, 2007

Pinoy workers are tops with Brits, says envoy

confidence in the Filipino worker by investing in a facility that will train Filipinos for jobs in the energy sector, British Ambassador to the Philippines Peter Beckingham said yesterday.

Beckingham, who inaugurated a comprehensive training facility of Cape East Phil. Inc., a member of Cape Industrial Services Group (CISG) of the United Kingdom, said the UK was convinced of the world-class potential of Filipino workers. The Cape Group specializes in the provision of access, insulation, fire protection, cleaning and other essential services to the energy sector.

"Recognition of the high quality of Filipino skilled workers is growing, as demonstrated by CISG's significant investment," Beckingham said in his speech.

"The benefits to the Philippines include not just jobs in the immediate future, but also an increase in the competitiveness of the Filipino worker in the long term," he said.

Beckingham said the training center will assess, qualify and train some 1,200 workers a year on the basic discipline and skills needed to enter the power, oil, gas, petrochemical, refining and processing indus-

BRITISH BUSINESS HAS REAFFIRMED ITS tries. The center has its own purpose-built accommodations for its trainees.

Graduates of the training courses will then be sent to various local and global locations to help support CISG in maintaining its leading position in the markets in which it operates.

According to the ambassador, the center is the second such facility opened by a British company this year.

Another UK company, Balfour Beatty, opened a training center here in July geared to the needs of the engineering and construction sector.

Beckingham said that Cape East had a strong commitment to the requirements of its clients and to the countries in which it operates. It was recently nominated to receive the Sword of Honor from the British Safety Council.

The center is also the first to gain international accreditation from CISRS (Construction Industry Scaffolders Record Scheme), recognized as a leading training governing body in the United Kingdom.

Cape East first came to the Philippines in 1993. Its first project was the Star Project of the Batangas Shell Refinery. Cynthia D. Balana





For Lolo Pio and Lola Salud, holding their great-grandchildren marked a milestone in their lives. After all, they surpassed the normal life expectancy of heart patients like themselves. It helped too that Lolo Plo and Lola Salud have been under the care of Pfizer Patient Care Program all these years.

Sa Pfizer, naaalagaan sila ng mga gamot na subok, mabisa at binuhusan ng research. With Pfizer Patient Care Program, patients are educated on their disease and taught how they can achieve a healthier lifestyle. The birth of their great-grandchildren is but the beginning of more memories to come. Lolo Pio and Lola Salud are definitely living lives that are not only long-lived but welllived as well.

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Cops nab car thieves, recover vehicles

By Akcuin Papa

FOUR STOLEN VEHICLES HAVE been recovered by the Traffic Management Group in the past two days, according to officials.

TMG director chief Supt. Perfecto Palad said three of the four cars-a Nissan X-Trail, a Mitsubishi L200 pickup and a Mitsubishi M300 van-were recovered on Monday in Barangay Capalangan, Apalit, Pampanga

Palad said this was a well-known dumping area for stolen cars.

He said his men were actually searching for a Starex van stolen on Monday morning from Capitol Green Village, Tandang Sora, Quezon City, when they stumbled on the three vehicles in Pampanga.

He sent his men to Pampanga after receiving information that the suswere heading north on the North Lu-

The TMG discovered that the three vehicles, now in its custody, had spurious documents. Later in the day, they were able to recover the fourth vehicle—the Starex they had been looking for in the first place.

Palad said members of Task Force Limbas under Senior Supt. Fernando Villanueva spotted the van late Monday evening at a checkpoint in Angeles City.

The police flagged down the vehicle and arrested its passengers, identified as Michael and Mark Dingal of Bagong Silang, Dungca Village, Angeles City, and Rolando de la Cruz of Bagong Silang, Phase 4, Angeles City

None of the passengers were able to produce documents proving ownership of the van. Further investigation showed the Starex had been stolen.

According to Palad, the three suspects who had taken the Starex van pects were members of the Dominguez. carnapping group headed by brothers

Raymond and Ogie Dominguez.

The group operates primarily in Metro Manila and central and northern Luzon, he said. In Metro Manila, Palad said the group favored Quezon City, Mandaluyong, Bulacan, Greenhills and San Juan.

Raymond was arrested by the TMG two weeks ago while driving a vehicle owned by actress Shirley Fuentes. Unfortunately, he was able to post P1.2-million bail, Palad said.

That's why he (Raymond) is back to carnapping (so he could) recover the amount he paid for bail," he said.

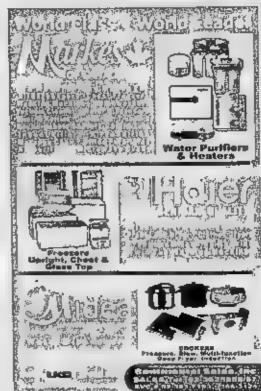
Palad said the Dominguez group and the Bonifacio group were responsible for 70 percent of carjacking incidents in Metro Manda, Region III and northern Luzon.

"These are the two big groups. If we can neutralize them, we can tremendously lessen the incidents of carnapping, particularly in Luzon," he said.

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NPA releases POW soldier

THE NEW PEOPLE'S ARMY HAS RELEASED "on humanitarian grounds" a Philippine Army soldier it had held for three weeks as a "prisoner of war" in the Compostela Valley.

Sgt. Raul Reyes was turned over to provincial officials by the Alejandro Lanaja Command-NPA, a rebel spokesperson said in a statement posted on Philippine Revolution Web Central (www.philippinerevolu-

Gov. Arturo Uy and Rep. Manuel Zamora took custody of Reyes from the NPA at noon on Monday in Barangay Casoon, Monkayo, Compostela Valley.

"The decision to release POW Sgt. Raul Reyes is based on humanitarian grounds, particularly [on] the request of his family. Also, the investigating body of the NPA found no grave crimes that were individually attributable to the said prisoner of war," said Ka Aris Francisco of the Lanaja Command.

Francisco said the NPA released Reyes even as the Armed Forces' Eastern Mindanao Command refused to suspend its operations in parts of Compostela Valley and Agusan del Suc

He said this was a "clear manifestation of its (AFP) negligent treatment towards their own rank-and-file personnel, paramilitary elements and noncommissioned officers captured as POWs and to the demands of

"Had the suspension of offensive military operations (Somo) been implemented, the POW would have been released earlier," bres ons

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Wednesday, October 31, 2007

30th Week in Ordinary Time Rom 8:26-30 1st Reading:

Luke 13:22-30 Gospel: Jesus went through towns and villages teaching and making his way to Jerusalem. Someone asked him, "Lord, is it true that few people will be saved?"

And Jesus answered, "Do your best to enter by the narrow door, for many, I tell you, will try to enter and will not be able. When once the master of the house has got up and locked the door, you will stand outside, then you will knock at the door calling: 'Lord, open to us.' But he will say to you: 'I do not know where you come from.

"Then you will say: 'We are and drank with you and you taught in our streets!" "But he will reply 'I don't know where you come from. Away from me all you workers of evil'

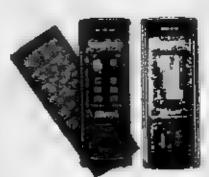
You will weep and grind your teeth when you see Abraham and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, and you yourselves left outside. Others will sit at table in the kingdom of God, people coming from east and west, from north and south. Some who are among the last will be the first, and others who were first will be last!"

Commentary The Spirit is there for us in our weaknesses and prays in us, teaching us how to pray and praying with and for us. The Spirit teaches us with words, with groans, and sensations and hopes that cannot be worded or imaged. But our hearts are searched and the Spirit prays for what we need, individually and as God's people. All things in the world work together As horrible and violent as they may be, all things are redeemable because of Jesus, the beloved Son's obedience and dying and rising. We are called to live and die and rise with Jesus, in our baptisms, in the pattern of our lives and one

day, forever. Jesus tells us that we must come in together through the narrow door-of the Word of God, the kingdom of the least and the poor. Just because we have been baptized or have shared eucharist does not mean that we are saved, or even on the road-the way of the cross, the way of justice and peace, the way of the children of God to the Pather in the Spirit with Jesus. There will be others we never dreamed of who are in the kingdom of God, which we thought was all ours. We need to be careful for God knows the others who will be first and perhaps we might even end up last, if we are in at all.

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Buffet republic

IOSDADO MACAPAGAL SPENT HIS VICE PRESIdency campaigning non-stop, because President Carlos P. Garcia wouldn't give him a job. Back then, the basic unit of our government was the barrio, and Macapagai never hesitated to boast that he had visited nearly every barrio to shake hands with nearly every voter. To be sure, obsessive attention to voters, in retail

and wholesale terms, is the mark of any successful politician. But Macapa-EDITORIAL gal's personal touch proved incapable

of overcoming the challenge mounted by Perdinand E. Marcos, who believed above all else in the ability of political machinery to overcome all odds

Marcos renamed the barrio the barangay, and this latter-day rajah ensured that the barrio captain of old would become the barangay chairman of today, the petty datus on whom money is periodically showered by Malacaffang. Marcos distrusted the traditional party machines and wanted to build personal ties between his supreme chieftainship, and the village chiefs he created and made

dependent on his good graces. It is no coincidence, then, that President Macapagai-Arroyo governs with a combination of her father's retail obsession, and Marcos' wholesale penchant for bribing all opposition into submission. She roams the country with her father's zeal and holds cash buffets in Malacanang in a truly Marcosian manner. At the apex of the patronage pyramid, she knows as well as her legionaries in the House of Representatives do, that the bedrock of their shared political machinery are barangay offi-

Which is why the true story of the recently concluded barangay elections is that they were about cash, political infrastructure, or put another way, providing for the future of the President and her people. By now we are reasonably certain that the congressmen and governors plied with cash in the Palace a few weeks ago were lining up for doles they could give out, in turn, to their barangay

The supposedly nonpartisan nature of barangay governance be damned. It was payback time. The President owed the congressmen, who owed the barangay officials, in turn. All would pay their debts, since after all, payment

would come in the form of public funds To repeat: the barangay elections were a partisan exercise, with partisan goals in mind. Instead of giving adequate time for the reform of the obviously flawed and highly corrupt barangay system—including, as we pointed out, the essentially useless, except for dynasty-building, Sangguniang Kabataan-the President solidly supported the insistence of the House of Representatives to go through with the elections, despite the Senate's initial reservations. Nothing would be allowed to delay the pay-

The first dividends were immediately encashed by the President when she showed that more congressmen supported her than her erstwhile ally, Speaker Jose de Venecia. Then we saw it in the way governors tried to gang up on Pampanga Gov. Ed Panlilio, who exposed the cash distribution in the Palace. We will see in the coming months, the additional dividends the President expects to earn from her cash buffets, whether in terms of blocking a new impeachment effort or in simulating grass-roots support for Charter change.

Everything—the lavish spending on posters, marching bands, motorcades, the violence and intimidation, the bribing of voters-that has characterized the barangay polls is as nothing compared to what they represent. They are part of a continuing and increasingly brazen process of governing, not in the exercise of the will of the people, but according to the Golden Rule that whoever has the gold, makes the rules.

With a new generation of young dynasts in the SK, with their fathers, mothers, uncles and in-laws in more senior barangay positions, with the congressmen having paid off their local leaders' debts and by so doing, incurring new debts of gratitude and themselves grateful, in turn, to the President, everything is in place. Ritual calls for barangay reform will be made, and even if they have become an exercise in futility, we support those calls. However, we should all be aware that the entire political class benefited from this exercise, and this is what sets apart their interests from the broader public.

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Is Yamashita treasure buried in Batangas Port?

THE INQUIRER REPORTED LAST MONDAY that 179 landowners of a 40-hectare property in Batangas City adjacent to the Batangas Port have asked Gov. Vilma Santos-Recto to revoke a 2003 memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the provincial government and the Philippine Ports Authority to develop the property as an economic zone. Under the MOU, the province would acquire the land and shoulder the cost of improvement, while the PPA would construct, develop and maintain Phase 3 of the port. The MOU will expire in June next year, but until now the provincial government has not even begun to develop the property. The landowners want the MOU acrapped so they can sell their property to other buyers.

By coincidence(?), I received earlier two letters from one of the owners of other parcels of land totaling 130 hectares that the PPA wants to expropriate for the expansion of the Batangas Port. The owners and the PPA are now locked in a court battle because of the astronomical price the owners are asking for their properties. The letters comment on an earlier column (Sept. 21, 2007) explaining the court case and how the PPA would go bankrupt if it were to pay the price being asked. The PPA said it would rather not go through with the expropriation rather than go bankrupt

Well then, If some of the owners want the MOU revoked and the PPA wants the proposed expropriation of the other parcels also revoked, the problem is solved. The PPA returns the lands to their owners who can sell them to other buyers who can afford their price

The second letter rejects that compromise Obviously, the owners don't want to give up a good thing. But on the other hand, what can they do if the PPA doesn't have the money to pay their price?

The PPA, after all, has been ordered to pay a total of P11 3 billion (that's billion) for the 130 hectares. The PPA, which maintains and operates 23 major shipping gateways and thou-

ERAP OFFERS TWO INTERESTING, OR AMU-

sing, reasons why he's not backing calls for

is the largest part of this country—who should

choose and decide who they want to run or re-

place the government, not the few elitusts and

il society leaders have called for, would only pro-

duce the same results as the military-led uprising

that led to his ouster in 2001. "Haven't they

learned from their mistakes in Edsa II? Our country has gone from bad to worse since then."

The first argument brings us back to the

seemingly formidable question: "Who do you

want to replace GMA?" Seemingly formidable

because it's in fact the easiest question to an-

swer. Neither the "few elitists and churchmen"

nor the poor have the right to determine that.

In Erap's case, the voters did vote for him. In

fact, they didn't just vote for hun, they voted for

him overwhelmingly. But they also impeached

him. More than that, by a direct expression of

wil., they overthrew him. What made it the peo-

ple and not just a "few elitists and churchmen"

was the impeachment trial, which didn't just

play out before the Senate but before the na-

tion. The televised proceedings weren't just eli-

tist fare, they were mass fare, probably more

the second than the first. Without that tri-

al-the most popular TV show in this country

ever-I'd agree it was just a "few elitists and

churchmen" that did Erap in. I'd go further and

argue that without that trial, Edsa II would nev-

er have happened. No people, no People Power

Erap was the president of this country when he

was ousted by People Power, GMA is not. Inde-

pendently of the results of any elections, you

commit a crime like the "Hello Garci" conversation, you forfeit your right not just to public

office but to private freedom. You shouldn't be

president, you should be in jail. US President

But if Erap's case is debatable, GMA's is not.

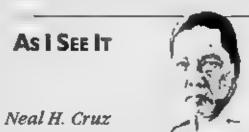
Two, a transition government led by Chief Justice Reynato Puno, as several bishops and civ-

One, "it's the people—the poor sector which

Gloria Macapagal Arroyo to resign.

churchmen."

Only the voters do



sands of terminals all over the country, has a yearly budget of only P4 billion. That means the land for the port expansion will eat up its budget for three years. There will be no money left for development.

Moreover, there will be no money left for port operations, no money for dredging waterways to prevent marine disasters, no money to pay the 3,000 PPA employees all over the country, no money to complete all the ongoing development projects, and no money to pay the billion-peso loans to international and local creditors. And what about the negative impact on the shipping industry and the economy? The PPA (and the .andowners) have no choice but to throw up their hands and give up

How did this come about? Did the PPA bite

more than it can chew? Not quite. The market value of the 185 lots. started at P336.83 per sq m as recommended by the Land Acquisition Committee for Phase II of the Batangas Port Development Project. The price then began its dizzying climb from thereon. The trial court issued a writ of possession in favor of the PPA upon payment of P400 per sq m. The owners asked for a just compensa-

bon of P8,000 per sq m. Horrors) The court appointed a three-member commission to ascertain the just compensation for the .and. After hearings, the commission submitted two reports, both recommending P4,800 per sq m as just compensation.

Despite the recommendation of the commission it appointed, the trial court raised the just compensation to P5,500 per sq m

That was like finding Yamashita's treasure buried in the expropriated land. At that price, each of the 231 landowners are to be paid hundreds of millions to billions of pesos. At that price, will the landowners accept the return of their lands? But at that price, can the PPA pay for it and not go under?

So the PPA appealed to the Court of Appeals and later to the Supreme Court. Both sustained the mal court's price of P5,500 per sq m on a technicality. The technicality? The PPA lawyer failed to appear at a hearing on the just compensation. The PPA is represented by the Solicitor General's Office

The PPA's side was never heard by the trial court and the two appellate courts refused to hear it either-on a technicality that would cost the taxpayers billions of pesos. In the interest of justice, fair play and due process, shouldn't the courts give the PPA a chance to be heard?

The Supreme Court en banc has agreed to accept a motion for reconsideration by the PPA. It should consider this case on the merits and not hide behind technicalities. It should give the PPA due process. The Court cannot render a just and fair decision without hearing its side. And if the PPA wants to give up the expropriation, it should be allowed to

The landowners will lose nothing. They will still have their land and they can sell that to whoever is willing to pay the price they want. But to force the PPA to pay a price it cannot afford is extortion. The PPA will be forced to close shop, with dire consequences to our shipping industry and our economy.

But let's listen to one of the landowners. Her letter will be published here, with comments from the PPA, in a succeeding column

TODAY'S JOKE: FG Mike A declined a Senate invitation to a hearing on the broadband deal because of his doctor's advice: For the good of your heart, better lie in bed and not in the Senate.

Now's the time

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros



Richard Nixon was impeached for merely bugging the Democratic Party headquarters GMA plotted with an election official to defraud the voters. Japanese and Korean officials have committed hara-kuri for less

Erap's wornes about a coup, which is really what a "military-led uprising" means, are beated. We already have one. Power seized by ballot is no less a coup than one seized by bullet. It is not justified by economic advance even if true, leginmacy holds primacy over all else-Economic advance may never take the place of the consent of the governed—and all we have is propaganda in lieu of food. In this country, the economy, not patriotism, is the last refuge of scoundrels. Marcos used it in his time, too Then and now, the claims are just a can of worms made out to be pancit.

Erap's second point is the more amusing one The biggest joke on this country, the kind that really hurts you when you laugh, as that GMA's weakness has become her strength, her offensiveness has become her defense. I've heard it from friends, too: "Why oust GMA? We'll only produce someone like, or worse than, her." You buy that argument, the worse she becomes, the more reason she gives not to be ousted.

That is what Erap is saying: "Our country has gone from bad to worse," Therefore, do not oust GMA because we'll only produce still worse.

The complete refutation of that is Cory Aquino, For all her rule's infirmities, she proved worlds better than Perdinand Marcos. And in any case, whether we produce another tyrant or not does not depend on our stars, it depends on ourselves. The only reason another tyrant keeps rising in place of the one we re-

move is that we allow it. After rising heroically to topple down a tyrant, we lapse back to mediocrity, patting ourselves in the back and telling stories about "the war" like drunken veterans in bars. And leaving governance soleby to "them" instead of issuing a stern warning from the start; "We, the people, put you in power to serve us, we, the people, can put you out of it if you don't." And making sure every step of the way that warning is heeded.

We'll only produce another GMA if we oust GMA? Only if we never learn

In the end, however, I'm glad that Erap is saying these things. It not only confirms something we've known all along, which is that IQ isn't his strongest suit, it's also that it finally rids us of an artificial choice we've been forced to make for a long time. That is the choice between GMA and Erap, between Entertainer and Trapo, between the devil and the deep blue sea. It's the one thing that has prevented the people from taking to the streets to remove another scourge: A choice between relative evils can only produce leaden feet, not winged ones. It's the one thing that has prevented a real opposition from springing from the pit of this ravaged land like flowers creeping out of the rubble

As is obvious now, if it wasn't so before, the choice isn't between Erap and GMA, it's between them and the principles of Edsa II, the principles that ousted Erap and the principles that GMA betrayed, never having fought for them to begin with. As is obvious now, if it wasn't so before, the choice isn't between the Entertainer who panders to the least common denominator and the Trapo who manipulates and coerces with the most uncommon determination, it is between them and true democrats who believe in empowering the people. As is obvious now, if it wasn't so before, the choice isn't between one evil and another, the choice can be between good and evil, or what is reasonably good against what is patently evil. For the first time in a long time, the opportunity to create a

genuine opposition is there. Heaven help us if we do not act now.



My Burmese experience

"SHADES OF 1986 MANILAI PEOPLE POWER will surely topple those generals in Burma." My nephew Miguel remarked in Vancouver as we watched the agony in Rangoon on TV I had stopped over briefly from California on my way to Hong Kong

It would be wonderful if Miguel's prediction came true, but the situation in Burma looks too break for optimism. Good may have triumphed over evil in Mantla back in 1986, but the brutal regime in Burma today seems worse than Marcos'. Ensconced in their new fortress in Pyinmana, halfway between Mandalay and Rangoon, the generals have dug in their heels, having fled north, reportedly on the advice of an astrologer, and to defend themselves from perceived attackers.

Just as we had Jaime Cardinal Sin and the nuns in 1986, the Burmese people have their monks and students who are now being brutalized by the military. The Burmese torturers come from a more surister mold than did Marcos' military thugs

What we're seeing today may well be the beginning of the end of that nasty regime. But while China keeps calling for "calm," it still supports the generals, instead of learning on them to behave. It's common knowledge that Beijing sees Burma's teak forests, mmeral and gas fields as ripe for explottation, and views the country as a strategic path to the Indian Ocean. Similarly, India, Thailand and Singapore have been trading with the vile generals, but the murder of a Japanese journalist has made Tokyo cut off aid.

As global protests escalate in this day and age of instant news via cell phones and the Internet, tightened economic sanctions by the West probably won't hurt the generals too much but they'd increase the suffering of the ordinary Burmese These are the courageous people who protested back in 1988, whose lives were further constricted when the currency was arbitrarily demonetized. Two years later, the generals ignored the electoral landshide won by the redoubtable Aung San Sun Kyl, whom they promptly placed in de-

TWO THINGS HAPPENED IN THE COUNTRY

while I was in Israel. One was the explosion at Glo-

rietta, the other, perhaps bigger explosion, was

Of the first, after the minal shock and dismay,

my first instinct was to call home to ask if anyone

I knew had been injured in the blast. Having been

wasn't in the vicinity of Glorietta that day, my in-

terest in the tragedy slipped into a more de-

tached, though still concerned mode. We even

Staring at the exploded "kassam" rockets on dis-

play at the police station of Sderot, the border

town that has borne the brunt of the rocket attacks

from the Gaza Strip, I speculated that maybe one

of those rockets was responsible for the Glorietta

biast, "That wasn't a kassam rocket," replied Lou-

Solgon of the Bishops Ulama Conference who was

part of the Philippine delegation. "That was a gas-sam," referring to later reports that it wasn't a

Erap's pardon was another thing altogether. It was difficult to adopt a detached demeanor to-

ward this dismaying development. When a mem-

ber of our group showed me a text message about

GMA's decision, I couldn't help but utter a curse,

in the native language, of course, for the benefit

of our American and Israeli hosts. When I man-

aged to get online, I found my in-boxes crammed

with indignant statements and calls for action. A

make. Paris Hilton, he said, who spent a few days

in jail on DUI charges, paid a higher price for her

misdemennor than Erap, "who hasn't spent a sin-

INDEED, that was one thing I couldn't under-

stand about this premature pardon. It wasn't

as if Erap had been languishing in a primitive

jail all these years. His rest house in Tanay is

more comfortable and lavish than the homes

But no matter how plush his accommoda-

tions, he still didn't enjoy his freedom," some-

one in the group reminded. Well, yes, his move-

SEARCHING FOR HISTORICAL MATERIAL RELE-

of perhaps 99 percent of the population.

gle day in a real jail."

bomb but a gas leak that caused the tragedy.

managed to crack pathetic jokes.

President Macapagal-Arroyo's pardon of Erap

COMMENTARY

Isabel T. Escoda

tention while slaughtering an estimated 3,000 of her followers. Awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1991. Suu Kyi did not go abroad to claim it-rust as she did not go to her husband's bedside when he was dying of cancer in London, knowing she wouldn't be allowed back into her country if she left. Her detention in virtual isolation for over a decade shows the generals are terrified of her

It's the age-old story of men grabbing power and refusing to relinquish it. Like Marcos, who toyed with the idea of renaming the Philippines "Maharlika," the generals arbitrarily renamed their country Myanmar, and last year fled to their fortress dubbed "Naypyidaw" (abode of kings).

late journalist-husband, one found a gentle people inhabiting a peaceable country where time seemed to have stood still. Women and men wearing the sarong like longyis could have sprung out of British writer George Orwell's stories.

Lately I've been reminded of my own protest three years ago when the Asean held a summit in Jakarta. That was soon after Suu Kyi, newly recovered from a hysterectomy, was ambushed while touring upcountry with some of her followers, many of whom were killed, I was appalled that President Macapagal-Arroyo did not strongly voice support for a sister-leader. Some friends and I decided to picket the Burmese Consulate in downtown Wanchai, but after I'd prepared the placards and notified the Hong Kong media of our plan, my friends were unable to join me. So I went alone to the consulate. A photographer/reporter from the Hongkong Standard turned up and shot me taping protests ("Free Aung San Suu Kyi, Burma's legitumate leader," "No Myanmar

Thugs in Asean"] on the consulate's front entrance and handing the receptionist a letter protesting human rights violations in Burma.

Then two officials came out of the office, mouthing imprecations as I retreated toward the exit and brandished Sun Kyi's book, "Freedom from Fear," The officials followed me and the photographer out, one of them snapping a camera -- no doubt to place us on their black list.

A few days later the Philippine Consulate informed me that the Burmese Consulate wanted my address (I'm not listed in the Hong Kong telephone directory, despite having lived in the territory for 25 years), because they wanted to send me a parcel. Fearing a letter-bomb, I nevertheless gave the address. The package turned out to be propaganda books titled "Magnificent Myanmar," "Myanmar: Building a Modern State" and "Myanmar Women's Day, 2006," all lavishly illustrated with photographs. A letter from the consul general pointed to my wrongheadedness over Burma.

Last year, activist Charm Tong, a campaigner for the minority Shan state in Burma, reported in a publication, "License to Rape," on the rape of 625 Shan women by the Burmese military "We can't beheve how human beings can be treated like that," she said. Cited by Time magazine as one of its Asian. Heroes of 2005, she said, "The regime does not want the world to know what's happening to the people, but the women's voices will be heard."

Recently a Washington Post editorial stated: The global response thus far has been lackadaustcal China, which has more influence in Burma than any other country has, needs to decide whether it wants to host the 2008 Olympics as the enabler of one of the world's nastiest regimes or as a peace-maket."

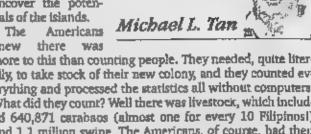
Indeed, Burma's fare lies in the balance.

Isabel T. Escoda has written about Filipinos in Hong Kong in her books, "Letters from Hong Kong," "Hong Kong Postscript" and "Pinoy Abroad," her

Census of 1902

WITH A NATIONAL CENSUS GOING ON, I THOUGHT FD go back and review one of the most comprehensive censuses ever done in the Philippines. This was done in 1902. The Americans invaded the Philippines in 1898, but it took some time for them to "pacify" the islands before a census could be taken. When they got to that, in March and April of 1902, a cholera epidemic had broken out, nearly wiping out entire

villages. The colonial government persisted, fielding their armies of censustakers to collect vital information and to uncover the potentials of the Islands.



Quieter

A full report on the census was issued within three years,

At the level of demographics or population, our islands

It must have been much more quiet then, with fewer peo-

ants or serfs and day laborers. Besides the agricultura. laborers, the main wage-earning occupations included weavers and spinners (producing fine textiles like just, piño and sinomay) and factory workers. There were few factories; even in Manila, these were mainly for cigars and liquor, and a few lumber mills. There was one brewery, and you can guess which one that was. Buy and sell activities were still minimal, merchants accounting for only 4 percent of the total population.

Literacy and health

ty and English was practically unknown.

The census did note that the young children attending schools were already picking up English quickly. No wonder, since English was compulsory. There were 3,000 schools, mostly at the primary or elementary level. A bit more than half were public, and about 10 percent were Catholic religious schools, mostly at the secondary level. There were very

The public schools were described as "large," meaning

The total number of teachers was 5,925, of which nearly

In 1902, cholera caused 31 percent of all deaths, followed closely by malaria, which accounted for 27 percent. Tuberculosis accounted for about 7 percent. Other main causes of death were epilepsy (probably including childhood convulsions that were not necessarily epilepsy), dysentery and diarrheal diseases, smallpox and beri-bert (a vitamin B deficiency). Strangely, pneumonia, which is today's main cause of death among Filipinos, was practically unknown in the Philippines during the early 20th

It's striking that "pauperism" (begging) was "almost unknown," and this was attributed to the simple and few basic needs people had at that time, as well as their being able to run to relatives for assistance. The census noted that the number of Filipinos who had to be cared for by the government was only one-fifth the rate of the United

ers or 8 per 10,000 inhabitants, low when compared to 13 per 10,000 in the United States, Bilibid was already around, with 1,787 immates sentenced to long prison terms. Their main crimes? Murder, homicide and manslaughter, theft and robbery and sedition. That last category stands out, reminding us that the Americans were still trying to subjugate the islands, and that there were Filipinos in prison because they

PINOY

knew there was more to this than counting people. They needed, quite literally, to take stock of their new colony, and they counted everything and processed the statistics all without computers. What did they count? Well there was livestock, which included 640,871 carabaos (almost one for every 10 Filipinosi) and 1.1 million swine. The Americans, of course, had their eyes on our natural resources and, for starters, they were

and consisted of four volumes, with a total of 3,000 pages, filled with statistical tables, maps and photographs. More than cold statistics, the census report offers us glimpses into Filipino daily life. Imagine now what life was like at that time—the sights, even the sounds.

(the Americans only counted 3,141 at that time, while recognizing that there were probably many more still to be counted) were certainly much less congested. The total population was 7.6 million, compared to nearly 90 million today. Put another way, the country's total population then was only haif

ple, practically no motor vehicles and certainly no karaoke. The country was divided into about 13,400 barrios, the basic administrative unit, the largest of which was Manila with a population of 220,000, while the smallest were described as having "a score or two of people." Besides Manila, there were only three other "big" cities, each with a population of between 10,000 and 20,000: Laoag, flollo, Cebu and Nueva Caceres. Nueva Caceres? There's one of your quiz shows—that was the original name of Naga.

and the "wild," The "civilized" were classified into eight "tribes": the Tagalogs, Ilocanos, Cagayans, Zambalans, Pampangans, Pangasinans, Bicols and Visayans. The "wild tribes," numbering about 650,000, were the non-Christian groups including "Mohammedans" (a misnomer for Muslims).

There were some 40 newspapers but literacy levels were very low so, the total-note total-circulation of all these newspapers was less than 70,000. There were sharp gender differences in the literacy rate, with only 10 percent of females able to read and write, compared to 30 percent for the males. Most people could speak only their local language. Remember Tagalog was not decreed as the national language until 1935. Spamsh was spoken only by a tiny minori-

they were handling "as many" as 120 students. If only the American colonizers could see our schools today, where one

two-thirds were men, which was not surprising given that even among the students, three-fourths were boys. Times have changed, with females now accounting for the majority of both students and teachers, at all levels in our educational system.

I was particularly interested in the health situation. The Americans noted that in the years when there were no epidemics, the death rates were actually not too bad even when compared to the United States. Epidemics, however, were disastrous: the 1902 cholera epidemic doubled the usual

The death rates among the young were astronomical Nearly half of the children born in a year would die before the age of 5. (Today, the death rate is slightly below 5 for ev-

were resisting the colonizers.

awed by nearly 1,000 billion (figure out the zeroes) feet of forest timber and rich mineral deposits.

of what we have today in Metro Manila.

The Americans divided the population into the "civilized"

Most Filipmos were involved in agriculture, many as ten-

few tertiary educational insututions.

classroom, not one school, might have 120 students!

death rate in the country.

ery 100 children born each year.)

Crime rates were also low. The country had 5,395 prison-

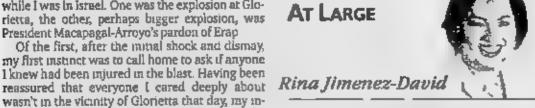
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When I visited Rangoon in mid-1960 with my

Two 'explosive' events





ments were under some form of control, but he could meet with anyone he wanted, and even got in touch with the media when he wanted to. The soft treatment be was getting was already sending ambiguous messages to the people, es-

pecially about the nature of his crime and the

government's resolve to root out corruption. How could we convince government officials and civil servants that corruption doesn't pay when they could look forward to being coddled and pardoned even after being convicted following a lengthy trial? Why the rush, and what deals were brokered in the period between Erap's conviction and GMA's hasty forgiveness?

The President could very well have waited until her last day in office in 2010 before issuing the pardon, and even then Erap would not have served his rightful sentence. But by then we would have been well and truly rid of her-unless staying in office beyond her term was the point of that exercise.

friend even had a clever, if bitter, comparison to BEFORE I left for London earlier this month, I got my hands on a new cell phone, a Sony Ericsson T650i. I asked my children to program the phone for me, then walk me through its functions. Assuming concerned expressions, they asked if I was sure I wanted to leave my old, reliable Nokia behind and venture forth with a new phone which I might not be able to operate.

I'm glad to report that I managed very well with the T650i, thank you. Even if for insurance, I brought along the owner's manual and reviewed it periodically, especially while killing time in airport terminals. A fellow journalist also covering the "Women Deliver" conference in London

ways wanted to own a "green phone," referring to the phone's green metallic exterior, not to any special environmental feature it had.

I must add, though, that I still haven't optimized the phone, since it comes loaded with more features and functions than my non-techie mentality can take. Perhaps it's time for another tutorial with my kids!

CALL this trip my "techie" challenge. I also brought along my Sony digital camera, which, as I had written some months back, was supposed to be a birthday gift to me but which I hardly used because I couldn't make heads or rails of the owner's manual.

Before I left, the hubby gave me an intensive hands-on seminar, but while abroad I found I could do little more than take shots and review the pictures I took. Some companions tried to teach me the zoom and edit features, but for fear of madvertently deleting some shots, I

stuck to my idiot-proof routine. Our hosts in Israel were quite impressed with the wide array of cameras we Filipinos brought along-ranging from cell-phone cameras to Jiggy Manicad's video-cam. But with 10 cameras fielded each time we wanted a group picture, the "kodokon" was eating up so much time. To save time, our coordinator Jim Busis made up a rule about one camera being used for every group picture, and then used the fact that most group photos were taken by his camera to "blackmail" us into turning in our evaluation forms, or else

he wouldn't e-mail them to us as he promised. Still, I must acknowledge the wonderful hosting job that the Project Interchange staff performed. Our Israeli guide, Ofer Ashkenazi, also enriched our understanding of his land with his personal stories and anecdotes.

I'm fully aware of the "agenda" behind our visit, as well as the agenda of each speaker we met. We cannot even hope to understand this complex situation after a brief tour, no matter how intensive. But it is the beginning of understanding, and the seeding of ties to this historic, complicated land.

A Halloween tale

oohed and ashed over the phone, saying she's al-

Ambeth R.



Ocampo to take the sting out of anything, including things that go bump in the night; I wouldn't have opened this book with a sick yellow and green

color if not for the aswang tales it contained. In 1968, Ramos assigned his students to do some interviews and write down the aswang accounts they gathered on 5 x 8 cards. The harvest was rich and covered many regions. The tales were recorded in the original Philippine languages of the informants. Reading this book as a gradeschool boy frightened me no end because, instead of hearing the same tales from our yoyu who used the aswarg to get us into bed or eat our vegetables,

here was material that sounded so real. One can only wonder if we will get the same result if we assigned students to compile aswang stories today. Last I heard, informants were talking about manananggals having a difficult time looking for victims in urban areas where electricity removes the cover of duriness. To further complicate things, TV antennas and electric wires make nocturnal flight challenging

For whatever its worth, here is one tale for Halloween. Inmaculada B. Blancaflor, 32, from Ilocos Sur, got this from Teofism Burnagat, 19, a maid from Dueñas, flodo

"There was a soldier who got lost in Dueñas, a barrio in Iloilo. Because he knew someone there named Sario, he decided to go to Sario's house. 'Sario, Sano, this is your soldier friend Ruben, may I sleep here for the night?

"He was let in and led into the only room in

Sprin's house. He nomed that there were menu

visitors, it is very embarrassing,' said the soldier. They are friends of my mother, and by and by they will leave,' answered Sario.

people in the house. I did not know you had many

"When Ruben was asleep, he was suddenly awakened by a peculiar smell. He heard movements in the room and then he felt something rouching him. He saw that it was a big but. He pulled out his bolo and shouted, 'Ikaw, yawa ka!

Patiyon kita karon!' Then he called Sario When Sario came into the room, the bat and the smell disappeared. Sario left the room.

"After a while, Ruben again felt something touching his body. It felt like the tip of a sharp needle. He shouted and brought out his bolo. Sario came into the room again and said, 'Mother! Don't fool around here."

Ruben got scared and decided to leave the house. The moon was full and bright as he came out of his room. By its light he saw bodies in the sala, cut through the waist with no heads. He hurriedly took salt and sprinkled it on all the cut bodses. Then he left the house "He decided to spend the night in another

house and there he learned that the mother of Sario was the head of aswarg in barrio Dueñas, and it was in Sario's house that the aswang periodically met." Read in today's context, a young man in a strange house being touched in the dark will not

conjure up images of an aswang. Somehow there

is something quite sexual about vampire tales, and I leave more competent comment on this to my neighbor Michael Tan. Maximo D. Ramos' aswang research is not just a study of past folkiore, but also a way to see how far we have changed in our behefs and fears since 1968 and how we continue to change till the

Comments are welcome at accampo@ateneo.

aswang truly becomes an old wives' tale.

vant to Halloween was a bit difficult because I had used the little I know in previous Halloween columns. None of our heroes had aswang stones to share and the closest we can get to something supernatural is in Jose Rizal's nightmares, particularly one that has him descending into the bowels of the earth and entering a room full of people in white, then taking a closer look at the seated group and recognizing them as friends and family long dead. We have a handful of anting-anting tales mvolving historical personalities from Emilio Aguina.do to Ferdinand Marcos, but these are best left for Holy Week which is traditionally believed to be the time to get or re-charge amulets. Surfing the Ner, the so-called "White Lady of

Balete Drive" still makes it to the top of the list. This must be one of our most enduring urban legends. The Balete Drive ghost is a hoar, like the Code of Kalantiao, but then myth seems to be more permanent than history. I was surprised to find a web-link soliciting Pinoy Ghost Stories in, of all places, the officia.

website of the Republic of the Philippines. Someone obviously wanted to draw people into the site and started a forum on ghost stories, but nobody took the batt. Imagine a chain of ghost stories on a site whose main pop-up picture is that of a smil-

ing Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo resplendent in a

blue terno. Sick joke it may be, but the govern-

ment website directs surfers to another site called

momoo.com or something like that.

Our editional assistant requested a column on aswang and manananggal, leading me to a forgotten monograph published by the Philippine Folklore Society in 1971 entitled, "The Aswang Syncrasy in Philippine Folklore With Illustrative Accounts in Vernacular Texts and Translations," by the late Maximo D. Ramos. The same author gave me many chills as a boy with his illustrated book entitled, "Creatures of Midnight," which had a flying manageness on the cover Trust academics.

LOOKING BACK

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Republic of the Philippines Office of the President Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council HOUSING AND LAND USF REGULATORY BOARD

Board Resolution No. 808 Series of 2007

AMENDING THE RULES AND REGULATIONS TO GOVERN ADVERTISEMENT APPROVAL

WHEREAS, there is a need to revisit and accordingly, to ravise certain portions of the present Rules on Advertisement Approval to address the recent proliferation of advertisements in various forms of media vis-à-vis the right of the buying public to be protected against misleading or fraudulent Information on projects advertised for sale,

WHEREFORE, be it RESOLVED, as it is hereby RESOLVED, that the Revised Rules and Regulations for Advertisement Approval be APPROVED APPROVED this 20th day of September 2007 at Makati City

> HON NOWL DE CASTRO Vice-President of the Philippines and MODCC Chairman

RN5500 L. PINEDA Undersecretary, DOJ

ROMULO Q. FARGE Chief Executive Officer and Commissioner

AUGUSTO B. SANTOS Deputy Director General, NEDA

AUSTÈRE A. PANADERO

undersecretary, DILG

JESUS YAP PANG

TERESITA A. DESIERTO

JOEL I. JACOB

ARTURO MAJUBLADO

Altesled by:

CHARITO B. DANIELIM

REVISED RULES AND REGULATIONS TO GOVERN ADVERTISEMENT APPROVAL

Pursuant to Article IV, Section 5, c of Executive Order No. 848, as amended by Executive Order No. 90, the following Rules and Regulations are hereby promulgated to implement Section 19 Presidential Decree No. 957 Rule I

General Provisions

SECTION 1. Scope of Application. These Rules and Regulations shall apply to all applications for Advertisement Approval for the following projects Issued Cartificate Of Registration And License To Sell, hereinafter referred to collectively as Project

- Residentia./commercial condominium and subdivision
- Farmiol subdivision andustria subdivision
- Memorial park
- Columbarium project Any other similar project
- Advertisement as referred to in this Rules shall mean any form of information dissemination, whether through words, illustrations, scaled models for public display or in any form of multi-media

APPROVAL OF APPLICATION FOR ADVERTISEMENT

SECTION 2. Advertisement Approval, Approval of the advertisement is required prior to its distribution, display and/or publication/broadcast SECTION 3. Who may apply. Every owner/developer who wishes to advartise any of the projects enumerated in Section 1 shall flia an

SECTION 4. DOCUMENTARY REQUIREMENTS, The following requirements are to be submitted by the owner/developer

- Two (2) copies of notarized application for advertisement
- At least two (2) copies of the proposed advertisement material One (1) copy of CR/LS of the project

application for advertisement approval.

- d. Marketing agreement between owner/developer and broker/salesman, If applicable
- SECTION 6. Contents Of Advertisement. The following shall be Indicated/reflected in the advertisement.
- The exact location of the project in terms of distance from a well known reference point,
- The License to Sell Number and date issued.

and duly signed by the regional officer

- Project completion date per approved work program
- Maximum setting price in case of economic and socialized housing The name(s) of the owner(s)/developer(s) of the project;
- Pictures or flustrations if any shall be captioned as "actual photographs", "architect's perspective" or "artist's illustrations", as the case may be.
- SECTION 6. What Should Not Be included in The Advertisement. The following shall not be included in the advertisement:
- Disclarmer(s)
- 2. Any future development not covered by the ficense to sell Exaggerations or misleading information

SECTION 7. Advertisement Approval. The Soard shall issue the Advertisement Approval when all the requirements of sections 4 to 6 are

complied with. The approval shall consist of a relter from the HLURB Regional Officer stating approval of the advertisement material and authority to publish, display, distribute or announce the same, and further stating therein all other conditions as may be imposed. The letter of approval and the approved copy of advertisement material shall in all instances bear the HLURS seal, Further, the latter shell be stamped "approved" indicating date

Any deviation from the approved contents of the advertisement material shall be a violation of the conditions of the approval and a ground for revocation of the approval.

SECTION 8. Warranties. The owner or developer shall be enswerable and liable for the facilities, improvements, infrastructures or other forms of development represented or promised in brochures, advertisements and other sales propaganda disseminated by the owner or developer or his agents and the same shall form part of the sales warranties enforceable against said owner or developer, jointly and severally. Failure to comply with these warranties shall also be punishable in accordance with the panaltles provided for in PD

RULE III MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

SECTION 9. Fees. The Board shall collect fees in accordance with the approved Schedule of Pees which shall be collected upon filing of application. SECTION 10. Effectivity. These Rules shall take effect immediately after its publication once in any newspaper of general directation.

Code	No					
		-	 	 	 	
	-			 	 -	
	-					
Done						

Relative to your request for approval of the attached proposed advantsement (Name of Project)_____ , located at (Address/Location) please be informed that the said ADVERT SEMENT MATERIAL IS APPROVED and AUTHORIZED FOR PUBLICATION, ANNOUNCEMENT, DISPLAY AND/OR DISTRIBUTION subject to the following conditions:

- That no alteration/deviation shall be made on the approved advertisement material when the same is published/distributed.
- That the owner or developer shall be enswerable and lable for the (scillles, improvements, infrastructure or other sale propagands disseminated by him or by his agents and the same shall form part of the sales warranties enforceshie against said owner/developer, jointly
- That the pictures or illustrations showing the Project, portion thereof or the facilities should be properly captioned as to whether eaid pictures are actual photographs taken on the site or merely architect's perspective or artist's illustrations:
 - That statement, "This advertisement is approved and authorized by the Housing and Land Use Regulatory Board (HLURB)" shall be indicated at the end of the text of the advertisements and/or in conspicuous apaca in the advertisement material:
- That any misrepresentation made in the advertisement material shall be a valid cause for revocation of this approval and all other senctions. It is further understood that any violation or non-compliance with the foregoing conditions shall subject the offender to the administrative and/or criminal penalties provided for under Section 38 and 39 of P.O. 957 and its implementing Standards, Rules and Regulations.

Regional Officer

DATE **AMOUNT**

TIN OF THE OWNER/DEVELOPER.

APPLICATION FOR ADVERTISEMENT APPROVAL (To be accomplished in duplicate)

(Dale)

The Regional Officer Region _ Housing and Land Use Regulatory Board

Pursuant to Section 19, of Presidential Decres No. 957 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations applies for approval of proposed edvertisement for__

(Name of Project) bns berwo_ ____ which is due for publication/ broadcasting/distribution/display on .

Attached herawith are the following:

- Two (2) copies of the proposed advertisement.
 - 2. A copy of Cartificate of Registration and License to Seli; 3. Marketing agreement between owner/developer and broker/
- salaaman (as applicable) (if the person/entity advertising is a real estate salesman, broker or dealar, the

following additions: requirements shall be submitted).

1 4. Certification from concerned HLURB Regional Officer that the applicant has not been issued Coase and Decease Order (CDO) for the project applied for I can be reached at

Address Talephone No

Or through my representative _____

Address Telephone No.

Very truly yours,

(Printed Name and Signature)

(Designation/Position) SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this day of _ sifient exhibited 200___ in the City/Province of __

__ or . __ ___ Dos. No. NOTARY PUBLIC Page No. Book No. Series of

(PDI - Oct. 51, 2007)

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2007

Partisanship no place in Congress probes

IS LAWYERING BY LEGISLATORS there might proper in Congress? In the Impeachment proceedings against President Joseph Estrada in the Senate and against President Macapagal-Arroyo in the House, as well as the current Senate investigations on the NBN-ZTE broadband contract and the "Hello Garci" tapes, we have seen some senators and congressmen lawyering for the subjects of the congressional probes.

Before the courts and administrative bodies, it is proper for the litigants to be represented by counsels. More so in crimmal proceedings. Even in legislative hearings, which may have a bearing on criminal matters, withesses or "resource persons" may request for private counsel. And defense lawyers are usually paid by the de-

But the government prosecutors are paid by the people who are the complainants in "People vs John Doe." So are the legislators. And when they attend congressional investigations, their function is to draw out the "whole truth and nothing but the truth"-so that they are able to perform their tegislation and oversight duties better. If at all, legislators have to view themselves as "lawyers," they should "lawyer" for the people who spend for their salaries and for the perks and privileges they enjoy.

In court and administrative proceedings, suppression of evidence is taboo. Lawyers who suppress evidence are punished Congress has a wider leeway in obtaining information because the public interest covers a wide field If the envelope supposedly containing evidence against President Estrada was not "suppressed" in his impeachment trial,

been no need resort to

extra-constitutional means to oust him. Those who voted against the opening of the envelope now claim that it contained nothing incriminating against Erap. Then they should admit responsibility for the people power against Erap and apologize

Partisanship has no place in congressional investigations. Partisanship refers to party programs or platforms of political parties or groups. No political party advocates criminality, corruption or plunder. So when the Senate or the House of Representatives looks into cases of corruption, all egislators are expected to act objectively, as one, in order to expose the corruption and the corrupt They are not supposed to obstruct justice or hide the truth

In the Nixon impeachment trial by the US Senate, even President Richard Nixon's fellow Republi cans went against him when a was clear he had committed a crime. The US Supreme Court de nied Nixon's plea for executive privilege over the White House tapes. Nixon had to resign.

Legislators who lawyer for pri vate interests in Congress betray the public trust or the interest of their client, the people. The People's Court will find ways to dea. with them-as it did in the past-even outside the constitu tional forums which they had des ecrated and shattered

-MANUEL P, ALMARIO. spokesman, Movement for Truth in History, mfaimario@yahoo.com

Trillanes cartoon has no basis

EDITORIAL CARTOON showing Sen. Antonio E Trillanes IV thinking aloud that he needs to "rework" his "strategy of speaking without thinking" (INQUIRER, 10/24/07) may be an expression of opinion, but it is also a presumption of the senator's frame of mind toward his work. It has completely no basis.

It is flatly false because Trilanes did not whip out of thin air his charge that Norberto Gonzales and Hermogenes Esperon have something to do with the Glorietta 2 explosion. He has received cred ible and reliable information about this and is prepared to tell. all that he knows and is ready to present his witnesses in an investigation to be conducted by an independent, impartial and credible body. He has, in fact, made a step further. He will present his witnesses in a Senate probe and has filed a resolution to this effect

Why didn't Trillanes reveal his information to the Criminal Invesngation and Detection Group? To this question, his answer is also a question. "Did we ever have a truly impartial investigation conducted by the Arroyo administration?"

The cartoon reveals the IN-QUIRER'S seeming pritation that Trillanes made the charge without presenting any evidence or witnesses. We can understand this because the Inquirer is in the business of gathering and delivering news, while the senator's duty is to uphold public interest by promoting transparency and accountability in governance regardless of whether or not the

media report this,

That he jumped the gun or Malacañang with his charge is it strategy, all right, but it was done after much thought and reflec

Lastly, the cartoon negates the INQUIRER'S Oct. 21 editorial which said that "even the government it self has been put forward as a possible culprit" in the tragedy, "and what makes this significant is that the scenario has crossed the minds of ordinary citizens, not just the usual critics of the government." It further said that this is "a terrible indictment of the credibility of government that the public con siders its high officials suspects in such a ruthless crime."

True, indeed, and it was Trillanes who narrowed down the list of potential suspects to Gonzale. and Esperon because he believes his source and is convinced of the solidity of the testimony.

The Inquirer editorial further said that "this haish, cruel reality must be confronted by the admin istration" which "must movi heaven and earth to mount a cred ible, transparent investigation." it this is the Inquirer's admonition why did it have to lampoon Tril lanes, who is with the Inquires in calling for such an independent impartial and credible probe?

It doesn't make sense, unless of course the cartoonist does not read the Inquirer's editorials.

-REYNALDO B. ROBLES, chief of staff, Office of Sen. Antonio Trillanes IV, Rm. 519 GSIS Financial Center CCP Complex. Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City

RP not the 12th largest country

the letter titled "Philippines is not small and weak" by Bruce Hall contains a lot of factual errors. (Inquirer, 10/24/07)

According to the letter, "The Philippines is the 12th largest country in the world. It is larger than any European country. It is larger than any but one country in Africa."

These are all false. Sorted by total area, the Philippines is the

I'D LIKE TO POINT OUT THAT 72nd biggest country in the world European countries that are big ger than Philippines are Russia France and Ukraine, to name a few, In Africa, there are more than one country bigger than the Philippines (e.g., Sudan, Niger and Angola). My source, the "UN Demographic Yearbook" (as of 4/16/07).

-RAYMUND DE LUNA. monsoon_xvi@yahoo.com

Questions on unasked questions

IN THE OCT. 25 ISSUE OF THE INQUIRER, there was a letter titled, "What if gov didn't take the cash?"

I'm not a lawyer or a writer. In fact, I can't fathom the legal intricacies of this issue. But couldn't a citizen's arrest have been applied in this case?

If a person gives you a bag of money, isn't it obvious that it is in exchange for something? Can't we ask the person the purpose and the source of the gift? If someone brings something to your home, wouldn't von ask what is it for or who is it

from? What if the gift is a bomb?

It just makes no sense that some people wait for the media to be around before they make statements and raise some questions which they could have immediate ly asked and the answers to which they could have immediately got-

Or maybe, they just want to use the media for publicity. Whatever their reasons, only they in their hearts know for sure

-JACINTO GAN, iacinto gan@yahoo.com MORTHERE LUZDO BUREAU Room 201 Bonuan Aparlette t () нарру Gier Loop Вэдию Ску Tel No 0741443 9255 Fax No. 074)443-897 F-mail: Ing_baguin@inquirer.com.ph

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Text us your feedback: inquirer atn rame/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart) Assistant Editor Tony Bergonia

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ROGERHANGALIO

In Digos City, a few hours after

polling precincts closed on Mon-

day, most streamers and posters

put up by candidates and their

supporters were gone in a snap.

But no, politicians and their

supporters did not suddenly be-

come environment conscious.

balloting was held as of Tuesday.

Use of force

MITTED AN ACCOMPANIES PEP Printing Corp. Bidg Ma-a Road, Dayso City Tel No. (082)244 1770 to 71 Fax No. (082)244-1771 E-mail: ing_davao@inquirer.com.ph

29 dead but polls peaceful, says PNP

By Inquirer Bureaus

A REELECTED BARANGAY CHAIRMAN IN CATARman, Northern Samar, was shot dead by three motorcycle riding men several hours after he was proclaimed on Monday, police said.

several builte wounds at the Catarman Genera, Hospita., Also k...ed was Roger Reyes, a barangay tanod, who was standing beside Anquillo in front of the University of Eastern Ph.lippines just 100 meters from the poiling precincts.

Fewer killings

Their attackers fled At least 14 empty shells were recovered from the scene

Eastern Visayas regional director Adolfo Ibañez said the k, ling could be "postically motivated " "Angui, o was a barangay leader and the incident rook place while the elections were going on," he said

But he said Monday's barangay e ections in the region had been generally peaceful despite this incident.

In Sharff Kabunsuan, village chair Samsudin Lumbos of Balut, Sultan Mastura town, was gunned down by still unidentified men hours after he was proclaimed winner.

Lumbos was visiting friends and relatives in nearby Suitan Kudarat town when attacked near the town hall around 11 30 p.m Monday.

Lumbos was shot twice in the them to stop the voting. chest and died while being rushed to a hospital here.

Marcos Anguillo died from elections were the most peaceful in the country's history so far since only 29 people were reported killed in election-related

Most peaceful

In 2002, the death toil in the barangay elections was 144, the

Failure of election was declared in some villages in Abra and in Northern Samar, after armed men harassed voters there.

In Isabela, a teacher who served in the elections died while three of her co eagues were nurt after their tricycle hit a pile of gravel along a road and fell in an irrigation canal in Cauavan City on Monday night.

Bernadette Arcaide, a member of the board of election inspectors in Barangay Daburrab, died when her head but the pavement.

MULSON'S TRADING CORP.

Alcaide and three of her compamons were on their way back to Daburrab after delivering ballot boxes to the Causyan City Hall when they met the accident

In Barangay Tabacda in Tubo, Abra, poll mediators failed to calm down rival candidates during the elections, prompting

Election officials encountered



A WOMAN votes with her child in tow in Bacoor, Cavita.

heads prevailed so counting was able to proceed on Tuesday, said lawyer Armando Velasco, Commission on Elections director in the Cordillera.

"The elections often heat up by the time the teachers start count ing the ballots, and often it is because of friction among neighbors who are also family members or tribe members, and it gets bers of the board of election more passionate," he said

He said police are investigat-

in the capital town of Bangued on Sunday night.

In Northern Samar, election supervisor Nonita Azadon said failure of election was declared in Barangay Bahcustro, a hinterland village of Lavazares town

She said armed men forcibly snatched one ballot box while young was ongoing. "The memtellers and the people there scampered away from the polling precinct due to this balpeople like Taray Ampok were responsible for cleaning most of the mess.

Ampok, 61, is a known scrap buyer in Digos. "I brought my children here too so they could help salvage things that can still be recycled and sold to traders," he said.

Trash trove

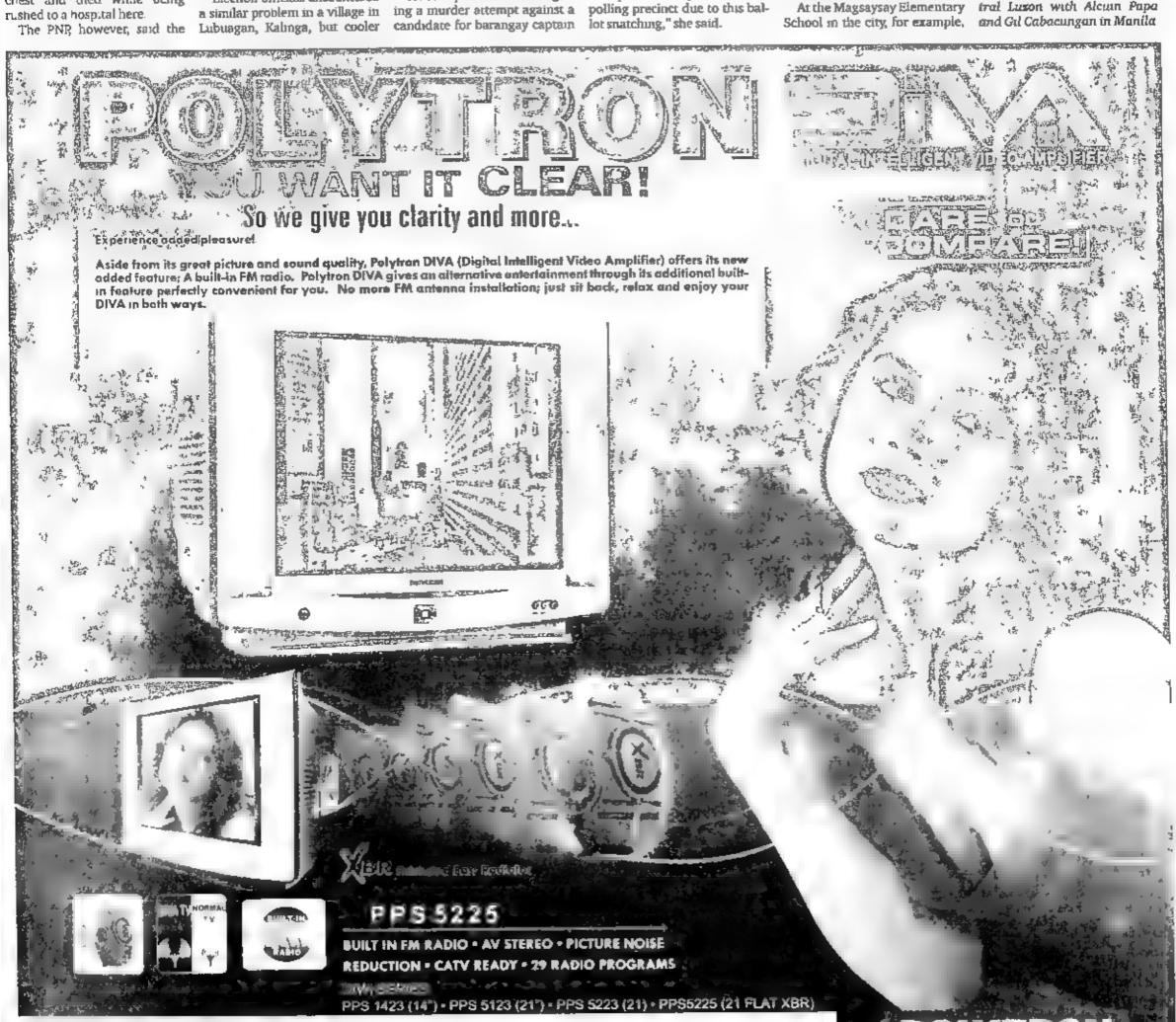
Among those that Ampok's children had collected, aside from the bamboo and wooden poles, were streamers fash ioned out of rice sacks and other plastic materials.

We can make grocery bags out of these materials and then we can sell it for P5 per piece at the market," he said in the vernacu.ar

"That bamboo pore could be sold to those who have fighting cocks but these wooden poles can be used to repair our house

The INQUIRER learned that the salvaging of recyclable campaign materiais also became a fad in many areas, shortly after polling precincts closed

Armed members of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MLF) also reportedly showed up in some polling precincts in Shariff Kabunsuan and scared away Board of Election Tellers (BETs) Reports from Allan Nawal, Edwin O. Fernandez, Charlie C. Señase, Julie S Alipala, Ferdinand O. Zuasola, Orlando B. Dinoy, Inquirer Mindanao and Joey A. Gabieta, Inquirer There were still small pieces of Visayas: Villamor Visaya Jn, Inquirer Northern Luson, paper littering schools where the Anselmo Roque, Inquirer Central Luzon with Alcuin Papa



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Editor Jun Bandayrel Bureau Chief Rolando B. Fernandez

INQUIRER Northern Luzon



- Leach EOS 4000 body or kit purchased within the promo 5. period comes with a training voucher to a digital photography workshop for free.
- Simply go to www.cenon.com.ph/clubeos/essentials to see a complete list of training modules offered.
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Promo runs from October 31 to December 31, 2007 Visit www.canon.com.ph/ck/beos/essentials & see fivers for details.

Per DTI-NCR Petroli No. 5980, Series of 2007

























THE TOMBS of Luisa Calgo Calado and her mother Tani Calado are housed in the middle of a strawberry field in Barangay Pico, La Trinidad, Benguet.

Funeral homes taboo for tribes

By Delmar Cariño La Trinidad, Benguet

ALLS FOR THE ESTABLISHment of funeral parlors in La Trinidad, Benguet, have provoked discussions pitting traditional beliefs against the pressing need for modern-day approaches of treating the dead.

Officials say the proposal of the Federation of La Trinidad Senior Citizens Association (FLTSCA) for the local government to build a funeral parlor is timely, adding that the people are now ready to accept the industry.

But others believe that funeral homes are

The FLTSCA insists though that tradition has to give way to modernity and asks officials to look for a suitable place to establish funeral homes and appropriate funds for

In a resolution, it says no funeral homes have been built since after World War II, either by the municipal government or by any private enterprise. There were attempts to put up funeral homes in the past but the plans were shelved after elders opposed them, it said

The elders invoked bad omen that the in-

dustry would bring-that funeral homes would cause more deaths to the community.

Objection

Why the vehement objection?

"Our custom is to bring home our dead. The old folks also frowned upon embalming, a funeral parlor service," says Board Member Juan Nazarro Jr., who is an Ibalo. lawyer from Bokod town

Board Member Apolinario Camsol, who as a Kankanaey lawyer from Bugulas town, agrees During the wake, he says, "animals are butchered and rituals are made which cannot be done in a funera, home."

Dr. Norma Pacaiso, provincial health officer, says the hospitals would rather keep silent on the federation's proposal. "These hospitals do not have funeral homes. Not even a resident embalmer. That's not part of the hospital's job. We are not legally allowed to do that," she says.

"If a patient dies in the hospital, the relatives are advised to bring the body home. They could seek the help of funeral homes in Baguio City and also hire the services of embalmers there," Pacalso says

Need

But she says today's times and growing population justified the need for funeral homes in Benguet

The semor citizens say it is high time that the town must have a funera, home.

According to their resolution, new technology has ushered in a new system "that practically changes the mood, attitude and lifestyle of the people." That justifies the need for a funeral parlor "without necessarily violating the centuries old doctrine of beliefs, customs and traditions of the elders of the community."

The municipal council favors the resolution But Councilor Thomas Chamos, committee chair on public utilities and health, says local governments could not inmate the putting up of a funeral parlor since at is a commercia, venture

"There is no local government unit in the entire country that operates, maintains and manages a funeral home," he says. "It must be a private sector led project or business."

Realistic

"We have to be realistic. Before, the old folks were allergic to funeral homes and embalming because the belief was that they would make the dead restless. But now, health reasons and a growing population demanded the need for funeral homes," he

Former Vice Gov. Wasing Sacla wants the issue put to rest.

"Funeral homes are not really a taboo. By practice, the dead would have to be brought home because he has a home. A wake inside a funeral parlor would raise questions among elders about the propriety of holding the wake outside of the dead man's house," he says.

"Eyawen da (They will criticize it)," he

Sacla, 68, knows his culture. His father was a mambunong (native priest) from whom he learned about the province's practices.

Before Sacla was elected to public office, then Gov. Ben Palispis had appointed him cultural officer. Sacla spent five years researching Benguer's traditions and rituals. In the 1980s, he wrote the book, "Treasury of Beliefs and Home Rituals of Benguet," now a reference in local libraries.

Today's situations have justified the need for funeral homes in the province, he says. "Houses have become crowded. And more deaths are happening. Traditional beliefs would not find a funeral parlor offensive."





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Judiciary flexes muscles on extrajudicial killings

rifle butts and whips, the water poured into their nostrils until. they could no longer breathe, the rotten food they were forced to eat.

The Manalo brothers claim they had seen in a military fecility Sherlyn Cadapan, 29, and Karen Empeño, 22, both students of the University of the Philippines, who disappeared on June 26, 2006. The families of the two students believe the military abducted them.

The brothers also say they witnessed the murder of the students' companion, Manuel Merino, 57

"The fact that they know what they know, they saw what they saw, puts them at risk," says FLAG lawyer Ricardo Sunga. "People can just be killed It's something we have to guard against."

The Supreme Court, alarmed by the rising number of forced disappearances and extrajudicial executions, has taken unprecedented moves to protect the Manalo brothers, who were arrested in their San Ildefonso. Bulacan, homes on Valentine's Day last year by Cafgu thugs.

The court has issued a temporary restraining order (TRO) forbidding the military from moving against the two men gram of the Department of Jus- Puno says in an interview with tary has insisted it has nothing to do with the abduction of the brothers, as it has denied it has Karen and Sherlyn in its custody.

Writ of amparo

Wielding powers under the Constitution, Supreme Court also promulgated the writ of amparo-taken from the Spanish word "protect"-widely used in Latin America where widespread human rights violations were committed by military dictators.

Under the measure, military or police authorities will no longer be able to simply deny involvement in abductions or extrajudicial killings. Authorities must prove they are not involved and open their detention facilities to inspection upon court orders.

On Oct. 24, the writ of amparo took effect. It will allow the brothers to seek refuge in the Supreme Court after rejecting the witness protection pro-



RELEASE THEM: Family and friends, carrying pictures of their missing loved ones, file a petition for the writ of amparo (or protection) at the Supreme Court in Manifa. They believe this is their last chance to find their loved ones.

without valid reason. The mili- tice, saying it is just an arm of the institution harassing them.

The Manalo brothers also urged the formation of an independent commission to investagate their detention and tor-

Affront to rule of law

Chief Justice Reynato Puno justifies the unprecedented exercise of powers granted the high tribunal under the new Constitution, which was crafted to protect Pilipinos from a repetition of the excesses under the martial law rule of the late President Ferdmand Marcos

Puno says the nation has never been confronted by a surge of extrajudicial executions since the overthrow of the Marcos

"It's only in the last several years that this problem confronted us and it's a very serious problem, serious enough to draw the attention of the United Nations and human rights groups all over the world,"

"These extralegal killings and enforced disappearances constitute an affront to the rule of law. If people take justice in their own hands, that is the best repudiation of the role of the courts in protecting the rights of the people.

Because of that, we thought it's high time to use this new power precisely given by the Constitution to respond to this kind of challenge," he says. "If this new power, this greater power is not wielded by the judiciary, I like to think the judiciary could be charged with dereliction."

Deficit of response

The left-leaning rights group Karapatan counts more than 800 victims of extrajudicial exe cutions since Ms Arroyo became President in 2001, including fatalities in armed encounters. (The inquirer figure is 300) Karapatan lists another 196 cases of disappearances.

If the problem is there, it shows there is a deficit of response by the entire government, the judiciary included," Puno says.

"I think the history of the 1987 Constitution would bear out the fact that the clear intent is to give the Supreme Court more checking powers in order to examine and invalidate acts of the two other branches of government which contravene the Constitution," Puno says.

"In that sense, you can conclude the intention of the 1987 Constitution is to make the court an activist court."

Since he took over the helm of the Supreme Court on Dec. 6, 2006, the 67-year-old Puno has put substance to this mandate.

Writ of data

In July, Puno convened a summit that included officials of all three government branches and the military and police top brass in a bid to find solution to political killings.

The rules on the writ of am-

Supreme Court a month after the Manalo brothers attempted to seek sanctuary in the high tri-The magistrates are also

pare were announced by the

crafting a writ of data that will compel the military and police to release documents needed by victims of rights abuses in court proceedings.

Together with the writ of habeas corpus that directs the military to bring before the court persons charged with offenses, the writs of amparo and data could provide ample protection of Filipinos' basic rights

Never again

Cesar Vilianueva, Ateneo Law School dean, says the 1987 Constitution gave the judiciary the power to prevent the recurrence of the martial law experience, when many disappeared. were tortured or arbitrarily detained with nary a procest from the other branches of govern-

The new Constitution sets a

precedent, says Villanueva, "to make sure never again will our Supreme Court be used as a rubber stamp or as a means to give a semblance of constitutionality to a regime."

Amado Valdez, law dean of the University of the East, says the magistrates under the Puno court do not act like "monks in an ivory tower" but "people with feet on the ground."

"In that context, the Supreme Court is activist, activist in its observation, activist in its response and actions," says Valdez.

Defining moment

Villanueva says that the July summit was a defining moment for the Supreme Court, taking the forefront in setting policy to end political killings, walking the tightrope, pushing the limits of what it can do as a coequal branch of government,

"Sometimes perhaps in our history, there's a need to take a chance in order that the others would also feel the sentiment of what our people want. And I suppose that was the felt need at that time the Supreme Court did that," he says.

"But the Supreme Court, by leading the way, just reflects ! think most of what our public servants and officials want to do. They want to be responsive to what is happening," Villanueve says, dismissing criticismithat the judiciary is usurping the powers of the legislature or the executive.

The real test

Puno believes the judiciary should continue to wield its constitutional powers for as long as the people's right to life and liberty is neglected, threatened and violated.

"Perhaps if we have a situation where the rights of the people are amply protected by all the branches of government, then you would have no need for a more acuve judiciary," Puno says.

So much hope has been placed on the writ of amparo. But Puno stresses that he does not expect human rights abuses to vanish overnight. "This is not a magic bullet," he says

"The real test would be when the cases are filed and decided," savs Villanueva

Chief Justice Puno: An unlikely revolutionary

From page A1

declared in September 1972 on an opposition petition asking the high court to immediately act and stop Marcos from promulgating the decision of a rump plebiscite approving a new Constitution that gave him sweeping powers

In the midst of the debate. news was relayed to the Supreme Court that Marcos-at that very moment-had just issued in Malacañang a decree proclaiming that the plebiscite had approved by viva voce vote the Constitution that he said was now in effect.

Caught flatfooted, the justices looked stunned.

"I told you," opposition leader Lorenzo Tañada said, wagging his forefinger at the justices, clad in black robes, arrayed before him at a quarter moon-shaped table behind a scarlet curtain.

A hush fell on the dumly lat court chamber.

high tribunal questioning the proclamation of martial law, the arrest of Marcos' opponents, the slide toward strongman rule.

The court later issued a decision declaring the petition argued by Tañada and the other opposition lights of the time-Jose W. Diokno, Francisco "Soc" Rodrigo, Jovito Salonga, Sedfrey Ordonez, Joker Arroyo-moot and academic.

Cloaked with the mantle of "constitutional authoritarianism," Marcos continued to rule the nation until the peaceful People Power Revolution of 1986 sent him into exile in Hawaii, where he died

If the high tribunal then acred the supme way it did, it was because the 1935 Constitution of the Philippines did not allow it to look into pouncal decisions of the President, the justices ranonalized.

Roberto Concepcion, the Chief Justice when martial law was proclaimed, saw to it that The silver-haired former sena- in drafting the 1987 Constitutor had led a battle before the non the judiciary would either dent declared a state of national

be accorded equal powers with emergency following a coup atthe legislative and executive, or become a sort of a primus inter pares, a first among equals,

Unprecedented moves

Since he took over the high tribunal in December 2006, Puno-who ironically was a participant in the perpetuation Marcos1 autocratic regime-has taken unprecedented moves to arrest what he regards as a drift toward dictatorial rule under President Macapagal-Arroyo.

the Supreme Court during a period of political turmoil, Puno believes that the tribunal should never again be a willing accomplice in putting the nation under a military boot.

Puno's predecessor, Artemio Panganiban, showed the way.

The Panganiban court issued landmark decisions against the Arroyo administration-repudiating acts committed when the Presitempt in February 2006, ordering her to allow government and military officials to participate in congressional hearings in aid of legislation and declaring illegal a preemptive ban on street procests.

Unmistakable signal

Dean Amado Valdez of the University of the East College of Law says the high court is sending an unmistakable signal in Ms Arroyo that she cannot use her powers for personal gain.

Those in power can deduce in In leading an activist role for clearly that they're being warned," Valdez says. "Otherwise, if the Supreme Court has not been in this mold, then we could have easily gone into a martial law regime already, or a constitutional authoritarianism."

The Supreme Court is guided by history, And this court wants to maintain its independence," he says. "What happened in the past should not happen again. If you had a vigilant Supreme Court then, the (Marcos) dictatorship would not have lasted for Party of the Philippines were armany, many years."

An umpire

While the high tribunal may seem to be flexing its muscles trymg to probe the limits of its powers, some academics feel that Puno is simply playing the role of an "umpire"

It is a role that reflects the brooding personality of the 67year-old chief magistrate, his adherence to the rule of law, his equatumity in the face of adversity.

Puno is a graduate of the University of the Philippines College of Law with a career spanning four decades as practicing lawyer, law professor, solicitor and magistrate. The bespectacled widower is

an unlikely revolutionary.

On April 16, 1977, a communist New People's Army guerrilla shot and killed his brother, Manila Court of First Instance Judge Isaac Puno Jr., at noon inside a restaurant in front of his family.

Four guamen belonging to an armed group of the Communist

rested and subsequently convicted of the murder.

The heart sometimes protests

Nine years after the killing, the widow of opposition leader Benigno Aquino Jr., Corazon, assumed power following the ouster of Marcos and freed jailed communist insurgents.

Puno concedes his family was unhappy to see the four killers of his brother released.

"What could we do," the writer Gregorio Brillantes quotes Puno as saying. "The government and leadership had made the decision, that granting them amnesty was for the greater good of our people."

"What the heart sometimes protests, the intellect and will must accept for the greater good of our people, if decided by a legal, duly constituted authority—a principle and conviction Justice Puno has made his own, at no little cost in blood and tears," Brillantes writes of Puno. With a report from Leila B. Salaverria

Abducted militant leader seeks SC protection

Philippine National Police Director General Avelino Razon, the Office of the Ombudsman, Maj. Darwin Sy, Capt. Angelo Cuaresma, Supt. Edgar Roquero, Senior Insp. Arsenio Gomez, Jimmy Santana, Ruben Alfaro and a certain Jonathan.

The writ of amparo took effect on Oct, 24 and the rules for its issuance were promulgated by the high court as a response to the spate of extrajudicial killings and enforced disappearances.

Defense of denial removed

The writ removes from officials the defense of denial

whenever they are accused of Intelligence and Security detaining a person, a problem that has led to the dismissal of petitions for habeas corpus.

The high court has already issued two writs of amparo, one in favor of two massing University of the Philippines students and their male companion, and the other in favor of two brothers-farmers who claimed that they had escaped from military detention.

No arrest warrant, charges

Hearings for the two writs have been scheduled for next week,

Rubrico was abducted on April 3, 2007, in Cavite allegedly by members of the 301st Air

Squadron and detained at the latter's base in Lipa City.

Rubrico said she was arrested without a warrant and detained without charges before being released on April 10 in Dasmariñas, Cavite.

Harassment

Before her release, she was made to sign a statement in which she agreed to become a military asset. She also said in a statement that she was accused of being a communist and was asked to confirm if other people were, as well. She was also told that her grave was already ready.

In seeking the writ of amparo, Rubrico said that after her release, men wearing bonnets and ski masks followed her and monitored her house in Dasmariñas, Cavite, forcing Jean Aprougho to leave the place.

Mary Joy Carbonel was allegedly harassed by Gomez by bringing her to beaches, texting her and interrogating her about Karapatan, prompting her to leave the family's Cavite home as well.

The petitioners noted that Gomez did not investigate Rubrico's arrest.

Rubrico said in an interview that she and her family had abandoned the house because

of fears for their well-being,

Witnesses visited by agents

The petitioners also said the police failed to help them, while witnesses to Rubrico's abduction became afraid after being visited allegedly by government agents.

"The Dasmariñas police and the Cavite police did not do anything about the reported threats and harassment the family of Lourdes Rubrico and her two daughters had faced," the petitioners said.

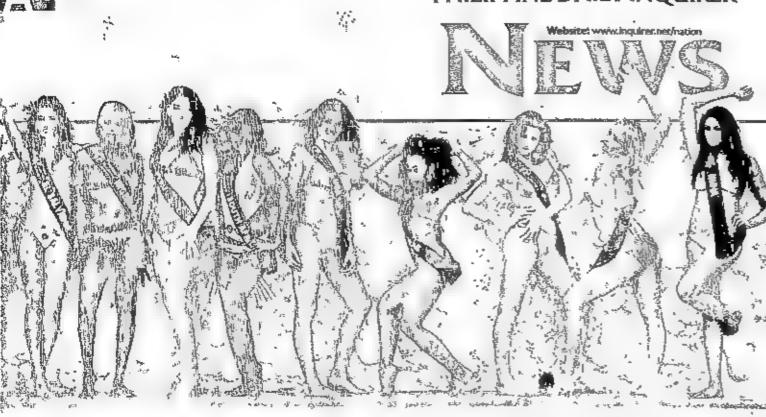
The complaints that Rubrico filed with the Commission on Human Rights (CHR) and the Office of the Ombudsman against her abductors have not prospered,

she and her daughters said.

The petitioners said the CHR investigation was stalled, "with the respondents never appearing before the hearing officer of the Commission."

Rubrico's criminal complaint, filed on April 20, 2007, is still pending in the Office of the Ombudsman, and the delay has placed her and her witnesses in danger, the petitioners said,

"[We] have exhausted all efforts legally available and that there is no other plain, speedy, and adequate remedy to protect the rights of the victims except by this application for a writ of amparo," they said.



REFRESHING. Candidates in the Miss Earth 2007 pageant strike various poses during a shoot at Golden Sunset Resort in Calatagan, Batangas. The contest final is on Nov. 11.

AFTER ARREST

Joma opens door to talks with gov't

UTRECHT, THE NETHERLANDS—THE door is open to the resumption of peace talks between the government and communist rebels who have been waging a nearly 40-year insurgency, according to the exiled founder of the Communist Party of the Philippines.

Jose Ma. Sison, 68, living in the Nether-

lands since the m.d-1980s, told The Associated Press he beneved the conflict would be resolved in his lifetime and he would be returning to his homeland—though it may not be during the presidency of Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, set to end in 2010.

He said he had been preparing for a resumption of the peace talks since his arrest in August by Dutch authorities—and his subsequent swift release for lack of evidence—for allegedly ordering killings in the Philippines.

"The main aim is to develop the grounds for the resumption of peace negotiations either under the Arroyo regime or after," Sison, known as Joma, said in an interview in the bare-bones offices of the National Democratic Front, the political arm of the CPP, in Utrecht.

The communists have a long list of demands, including land and economic reform and improvement of human rights.

Killings made it difficult

Sison said the Arroyo government's vow to stamp out the insurrection militarily, as well as anger over corruption scandais and human rights violations—especially the targeting of leftist lawyers and sympathizers for extrajudicial killings—made it difficult for the two sides to talk.

But the NDF is "open to peace negotia tions even during the time of Arroyo, if she's willing," Sison said

Norway is leading arbitration attempts. Sison said that on Oct. 23, a delegation led by Norwegian diplomat Hans Braatskar met in Utrecht with the NDF's chief negotiator, Luis Jalandoni, to test the waters for a resumption of the talks, frozen since mid-2004.

Sison was arrested on Aug. 28, on charges of ordering the killings of comrades who had defected to the government side. The killings were claimed by the CPR and Dutch prosecutors said they held Sison responsible as the CPP's leader. However, the judges ruled there was insufficient evidence and ordered him released.

Gone too long

Sison helped found the CPP in 1968 but spent 10 years in prison under the Marcos dictatorship and has been in the Netherlands for 20 more. Sison, who denies any role in the killings, says he has been gone too long to hold any direct power in the organization.

"The Arroyo regime, like other regimes, has overrated me I'm one of their more noticeable annoyances," he said

He describes house, f as the NDF's "ch ef political consultant."

The CPP and its armed wing, the New People's Army, were branded terronst organizations after the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks in the United States and Sison was placed on European terrorist lists in 2002.

The Dutch government would like to be rid of him, but attempts to expel him to the Philippines foundered due to the tack of an extradition treaty.

Sison said the removal of the "terrorist" tag was not a precondition for peace talks, though one condition for a permanent cease-fire would be for foreign governments to "cease interference" in the Philippines' Internal affairs

Lack of evidence

The United States formally removed its military bases in the Philippines in 1992, but has maintained troops there for ongoing exercises, most recently against Islamic separatist groups operating in the nation's south.

The Hague District Court ordered Sison released on Sept. 13, crung lack of evidence. Prosecutors appealed his release, but a Superior Court upheld it, adding that evidence against him should be seen in a "possible political context."

"That's a very elegant way of saying, there's political motivation," Sison said. Prosecutors are due to decide on Nov 5

whether to proceed.

After Sison's arrest, Ms Arroyo declared an amnesty for rebels wishing to give up

The amnesty does not appear to have worked, and the Ph.lippines has vowed to crush the rebellion before Arroyo's term expires.

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Editor Ester G. Dipasupil

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DID YOU KNOW

WITH the Catholic Church lifting the ban on cramation in 1963, columbaries, or depositories of cremated remains, have also surfaced as popular resting places for Flipinos in the Metro. In 2006, the cost of space in columbary wails range from P40,000 to P200,000. These spaces could accommodate as many as four urns.

Kale Pedroso, Inquirer Research

QC bets hold poll officers hostage

200 Comelec officials, teachers unable to leave polling place for 8 hours



ONCE MORE, WITH FEELING

A traffic aide attracts commuters and passersby as he dances while managing the flow of traffic at the Araneta Center in Cubao, Quezon City.

Suicide at MRT station averted

By Kenneth M. del Rosario

GARBAGE SCAVENGER threatened to jump yesterday afternoon from the third floor of the Metro Rail Transit (MRT) Quezon Avenue Station in Quezon City.

Herman Okoseba, 27, sat on the edge of a concrete platform at around 2 p.m. with his feet dangling as vehicles passed below him. Witnesses said the man looked like he was ready to jump from the 50-foot high building.

Anton Aring, 31, a parking attendant of a fastfood chain near the MRT station was the first to see Okoseba. He quickly notified the nearby police station and agents of the Metro Manila Development Authority about enue, but was unlucky. the potential jumper.

were arrested by operatives of

the National Capital Region Po-

lice Office yesterday after the

suspects allegedly tried to

bribe them with almost 25 mil-

Supt. Nap Villegas of the Re-

gional Police Intelligence Oper-

ations Unit (RPIOU) identified

the suspects as Anson Ngo, 52,

tried to give his operatives

P450,000 in exchange for the

freedom of four undocumented

Chinese aliens caught for illegal

The four were arrested Satur-

Villegas said the suspects

and Lorita Ng-Ngo, 51.

gambling last week.

By Julie M. Aurello

Couple nabbed by cops

for attempted bribery

while, a rescue team from the National Capital Region Police Office Special Action Force (NCRPO-SAF) went to the third floor to convince the victim to step off the ledge.

But Okoseba was unresponsive. Agents of the SAP then saw an opportunity to sneak up be-

Virgilio Dupaya and another member of the SAF looped a blue nylon cord around Okoseba and grabbed him from behind

Okoseba cried after his rescue. He said he wanted to end his life because no one would give him a job because he was lame. He said he had applied as janitor in practically every establishment on Quezon Av-

MRT officials said they would People who gathered outside hand over Okoseba to the police the MRT station shouted at who said they would check if Okoseba not to jump. Mean- Okoseba needed psychiatric help.

By Jeannette I. Andrade

SOME 200 ELECTION OFFICERS AND PUBLIC school teachers were held hostage for eight hours Monday by seven barangay candidates and their supporters during the canvassing at a public school in Quezon City.

Pagasa Elementary School as residents of the barangay surrounded the polling center and questioned the transport of four of 80 ballot boxes to the local Commission on Elections (Comelec) office in city hall.

Maria Teresa Araya, one of the teachers reportedly taken hostage, said they were about to send the other 76 ballot boxes containing election returns and other paraphernalia, after four were delivered to the Comelec District I office, when they were cornered at around 5:30 p.m. by residents led by their respective candidates.

Araya told the Inquirer that the residents accused election offi-

Tension gripped the Bagong The residents alleged the transfer was part of attempts to cheat.

When the election officers said those who transported the four ballot boxes were escorted by members of the Quezon City Police District (QCPD), the crowd was reportedly outraged and blocked their path.

The residents allegedly ordered the election officers to finish canvassing the ballots before taking the boxes out of the polling center.

The 228 election officers and teachers stayed inside the school until help arrived. At 1:30 a.m. yesterday, local Comelec officials and about 20 QCPD mobile patrol units arrived.

Barangay Bagong Pagasa is one of two "problem areas" for cers of cheating, claiming the the Comelec District I office four ballot boxes sent earlier that oversees 37 barangays. were transported without escorts. The other problem area is

Barangay Bahay Toro.

In Comelec District II, Barangay Unang Sigaw, New Era, Greater Lagro, Sangandaan, Novaliches Proper, Baesa, and Bagong Silangan had finished their canvassing and submitted the results. Only seven out of 30 barangays completed the counting.

The Cornelec District III office had received 34 canvassing re-

sults and was only waiting for the outcome of the elections in Barangay Matandang Balara, Loyola Heights, and Pansol.

The Comelec's Rhodoro Aguino said many election exercises, particularly for Sangguniang Kabatsan chair, were decided through the drawing of lots as results in many poiling places

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day for illegal gambling in a denin Binondo, Manila. A day later, Ngo and Ng-Ngo visited the RPIOU office at Camp Bagong Diwa, Taguig City to try buying

The couple were nabbed dur-TWO CHINESE NATIONALS ing an entrapment operation at around 3:45 a.m. yesterday during their second visit to the RPIOU office. Villegas said he turned down

the freedom of the four

had already been held for violating PD 1602 or the anti-illegal gambling law. "I'm very curious as to why

the offer and that the four men

they would pay almost half a million for just an illegal gambling offense. The bail for that is just P2,000," he noted. He said he would turn over

the four undocumented aliens to the Bureau of Immigration in order to get leads on their iden-

The pair, meanwhile, have been charged with violating Article 212 of the Revised Penai Code, or corruption of a public

METRO

Southern Police ready for special Pasay City elections

By Julie M. Aurelio

THE SOUTHERN POLICE DIStrict assured the public yesterday that it would keep special elections to be held in Barangay 76 in Pasay City safe for voters.

Over 22 polling precincts in the barangay declared a failure of elections after it was discovered that over 600 voters were excluded from the voters' lists.

"We're very sure that we can do our job, but the issue of disenfranchised voters must be addressed first," said district director Chief Supt. Luizo Ticman

He added that two of the 600 barangay kagawad.

Ticman said he told the local Commission on Elections to first address the issue of excluded voters before holding special

The special elections have been set for next week or after

The SPD director said Monday's barangay and Sangguniang Kabaraan elections were generally peaceful, with no reports of election-related violent incidents.

Police Office earlier ordered the deployment of at least 5,000 men to secure polling places in Metro Manila Some 305 of voters were also candidates for them came from the NCRPO headquarters.

UP studes light candles for dead frat neophytes

By Kenneth M. del Rosario

STUDENTS AT THE UNIVERSITY of the Philippines (UP) in Quezon City lit candles over the weekend to remember the "senseless" deaths of fellow students allegedly because of fraterruty violence.

"We cannot remember Cris Mendez and all the others who have reportedly died of hazingrelated activities without outrage in our hearts," said Tin de Villa, of the UP Asyansa, an alliance of student organizations against fraternity aggression.

On Sunday evening, the group lit 100 candles in front of the Oblation statue on the Diliman campus against a backdrop of signs calling for justice for Marlon Villanueva, Den Daniel Reyes,

All Saints' Day.

The National Capital Region

Nino Calinao, Alex Icasiano, Mark Ronald Martin and Dennis Venturina. Mendez, the latest on

the list, was a public administranon student who died on Aug.

27, allegedly a hazing victim

What has been more alarming, Alyansa said, were efforts to delay the administration of justice. It cited a temporary restraining order filed in the Quezon City Regional Trial Court allegedly to halt the UP Student Disciplinary Tribunal from con-

ducting an investigation. "We see this act as a blatant display of indifference in attaining justice," Alyansa said. "It appears the accused are more interested in saving their own skins and delaying administrative processes.1

Safe and secure holidays assured by police

By Tina G. Santos and Julie M. Aurelio

PEOPLE GOING OUT OF town for the long holiday break should make sure their home and belongings are safe and se-

The Manila Police District said criminal elements, particularly the Akyat-Bahay gangs, usually take advantage of the absence of occupants to break into homes

"As much as possible don't leave your house unattended. Have somebody look after it. Otherwise, you should at least coordinate with barangay officials and ask for regular patrols around unartended homes," police officials said.

MPD director Chief Supt. Roberto Rosales said he ordered patrol cars to conduct frequent police visibility rounds, in coordination with security personnel and barangay officials, to ensure the protection of properties.

In the Southern Police District, an additional 200 cops will be deployed as part of "Oplan Kaluluwa" for Ali Saints' Day.

Around 40 policemen will be assigned to two of Parañaque City's biggest cemeteries: The 114-hectare Manua Memorial Park and the Loyola Memorial Park on Sucat Road

Rosales assured Manila residents security measures were already in place and policemen

would be deployed to maintain peace and order on Nov. 1. He said the police would also monitor people leaving for the

MPD personnel would be deployed in various bus terminals in the city, Rosales said.

He added that they would also beef up security in vital installations like the Light Rail Transit, oil depot and other government and private establishments.

Ticman has also ordered the deployment of 35 more cops in Makati City, 30 in Pasay City, 30 in Las Piñas City, 25 in Muntinlupa City, 25 in Taguig City and 15 in the town of Pa-

National Capital Region Police Office spokesperson Supt Rhodel Sermonia, on the other hand, said they were keeping a close eye on major cemeteries in Metro Manila.

"We will also post policemen in bus terminals, sea ports, airports and thoroughfares to ensure the safety of people leaving for the provinces," he added

"Our policemen will be strict with visitors who wish to bring any deadly weapons, firearms or liquor inside the cemeteries," said Sermonia. He also advised the public against gambling in cemetenes, saying those caught would be charged with violating PD 1602 or the anti-illegal gambling law.

In Taging City, a team com-



CHILDREN patiently wait for their parents lining up to buy tickets for a bus ride home to the province inside a Cubao, Quezon City

Public Order and Safety Office, Barangay Affairs Office, Traffic Management Office, Special Response Team, General Services Office and the City Health Office will be in charge of peace and order concerns, said Mayor Freddie Tinga, The city

has five public cemeteries Chief of police Supt. Alfred Corpus said some policemen would be inside the cemeteries while mobile patrols would respond to emergencies.

Poso head Lt. Jesus Merilo said Poso personnel and baran-

posed of the local police, the gay tanod will inspect belongings of those entering the cemetery. Portable toilets will be provided near the cemeteries while traffic aides will ensure the smooth flow of traffic

> Twenty health teams will be on duty to administer first aid, while a rescue team will be on stand-by, according to city health officer Dr. Rolando

Meanwhile, NCRPO Director Geary Banas said they would deploy 9,000 policemen to the Metro's different cemeteries, seaports and bus terminals.

ROAD RELIEF

Repair teams to SLEX for motorists' convenience

By Riza T, Olchondra

exodus to and from Southern Luzon for All Saints' Day, the South Luzon Tollway Corp (SLTC) said yesterday that 24hour maintenance and emergency teams have been sent to the South Luzon Expressway (SLEX) starting today

The teams brought with them road equipment and supplies, including generators and fuel. All days-off of SLEX personnel have been cancelled for the duration of the holidays.

All construction related activities that could affect traffic flow were suspended until Nov. 4, but normal work site schedules will be observed in non-

traffic areas. The SLTC said that as of Oct 27, SLEX contractor MTD Conhad finished all preparations for the expected southbound break. These measures include pavement repairs, construction patching and overlay of deteriorated sections, and provisions

build-up. Traffic is expected to

be at its heaviest on Oct. 31 from 6 a.m.-11-30 a m., and on IN ANTICIPATION OF THE Nov. 1, up to 10 a.m. Southbound traffic reached up to 153,000 vehicles on the same day last year.

The expected increase in traf fic is expected to be felt within the five-kilometer stretch between Filinvest and San Pedro, Laguna. The normal traffic count in

this area, even before the rehabilitation of SLEX, reaches a high of 130,000 southbound vehicles per day, tapering off to 100,000 beyond San Pedro.

PNCC and MTD traffic managers agree this volume far exceeds the carrying capacity of the four-lane highway. The SLEX rehabilitation project in cludes widening the roadway to eight lanes, up to Sta. Rosa.

The SLTC said road condistruction Phils. Inc, (MTDCPI) tions are better now and will improve with the weather Sunny days in the past two weeks exodus during the Halloween had allowed MTDCPI to finish its road work and reopened lanes in the critical Filinvest to of transitions lanes, asphalt the San Pedro section, as well as other congestion-prone areas

Work will continue in areas for emergency counter flow in where workers and equipment case of unexpected traffic will not cause inconveniences to motorists.



CENTRAL PANGASINAN ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

San Carlos City Pangasinan Tel # 532-2222 / 532-3146

INVITATION TO BID

The Central Pengastran Electric Cooperative, Inc. (CENPELCO) with office address at Pedille St. San Ceriot City. Pangasings invited all qualified bulders for the emplementation of approved electricision projects of the Department of Energy (DOE) within the Municipality of Lingarym Pangasinan pursuent to Energy Regulations No. 1-94, as emended, amounting to FIFTEEN MILLION SIX HUNDRED NINETY FIVE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED THIRTY SIX PESOS and BQ/100 (Php15,695,536.60).

Supply of Labor and Materials for the construction of distribution the to twenty five (25) situs in the Municipality of Linguyen, Pangitierian with a total circuit knorrelant of 25 20 broken down

H. Open Secondary M. Under Bulli 6.58 kms.

All interested parties shall automat Letter of Intent logoliber with their latest company profile and All precisions parties along sources begin to impet to period, logicity who text cannot surpture yourselves and scope of works to PBAC secretarial starting November 14, 2007, in addition, a non-refundable fee of Seven Handrid Fifty Peeos (P750 00) shall be paid before securing said documently Submission of inseled bit will be on Decomber 14, 2007 (Fridgy) at 2:00 PM (1400 first) at CENPELCO main of Ace, Paditia St. San Certor City Pangerinan wherein your bid will be opened in your presents at that of your representables. Price to the bidding proper your company's representables in the bidding proper your company's representative.

representatives are requested to inspect/ossass flip show Request further to include in your easied but/proposes period to complete the project. terms of payment, achordule of activities and materials and equipments specification for availation purposes. Please submit BIO BOND equivalent to two and one-half percent (2 M2%) of the total bid passe if it is a cash or menager's check or if it is a surely bond it must be equivalent to ten-percent (10%) of the total bid price. Bid bond less than the required amount will be externatively disqualified. Bids/proposals submitted beyons the specified data and time will not be accepted.

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(Sgd.) RODRIGO F CORPUZ PBAC Chambian

Noted by (Sgd.) ENGR. EDGARDO R. PIAMONTE Executive Officer/Protect Supervisor



INTRODUCING

The WORLD

Suicide bomber kills 30 Iraqi policemen

bomber on a bicycle killed 30 Iraqi policemen doing their morning exercises at a base north of Baghdad on Monday, in one of the deadliest strikes on security forces in months.

Baghdad wounded a US general-the highest ranking US officer to be wounded in Iraq since the invasion in 2003.

The suicide bombing north of Baghdad targeted a police rapid reaction force at their base in volatile Diyala province, said Maj.

Diyala police chief.

A shopkeeper whose store is close to the base told Reuters he had seen a man riding a bicycle slip through a gap in the concrete wall surrounding the compound And a roadside bomb attack in and heard a huge blast seconds later that threw a cloud of dust in-

T saw many bodies covered in blood. Some were dying, some had arms and legs blown off," said store owner Ali Shahme.

At least 20 people were wounded in the attack, including

Hospital officials gave the same number of casualties.

No group claimed responsibility for the bombing, but it bore the hallmarks of al-Oaida, which has often used suicide bombers to devastating effect in attacks on Iraqi security forces.

The base is in the city of Baquba, capital of Diyala province, a religiously and ethnically moved region where al-Qaida and other Sunm Arab insurgent groups as well as Shate Muslim milities operate.

Also in Diyala, police found 20

Gen. Ghamim al-Quraishi, the a woman and a child, police said. decapitated bodies on Monday, dumped near a police station west of Baguba. The identity of the victims was not immediately known. Beheadings in Iraq are usually the work of al-Qaida militants.

Eleven Sunni and Shute tribal leaders, members of an anti-al-Qaxda group in Diyala, were kidnapped on Sunday on their way home after meeting a representative of the prime minister in Baghdad. The Defense Ministry said eight were rescued on Monday when soldiers raided the house where they were held.

The ministry said another raid was under way to try to find the three tribal sheikhs still missing. But two Diyala government officials said one of those missing, Sunni sheikh Modher al-Azzawi. was found dead earlier on Monday

US forces blamed a former commander in radical Shute cleric Muqtada al-Sadr's Mehdi Army mulitia for the kidnapping.

in other violence, a car bomb in a residential area in the northern Iraqi town of Siniya demolished two homes, killing eight people and wounding 13, police said.

And Brig. Gen. Jeffrey Dorko, commanding general of the Gulf Region Division of the US Army Corps of Engineers, was wounded along with another soldier when a roadside bomb exploded beside their convoy, the US military said. His wounds were not life threatening and he was evacuated from

The US military handed over security control for Kerbala province, home to one of the holiest cines in Shitte Islam, to the local authorities on

WORLDBRIEFS Chad charges I 6 Europeans with kidnapping

N'DJAMENA -- A Chadian judge late Monday laid kidnapping and complicity charges against 16 Europeans held over a charity's attempt to fly more than 100 children to France, the prosecutor's office in the eastern town of Abeche told AFP Nine French nationals, members of the charity Zoe's Ark and journalists, were formally charged with "kidnapping of minors with the aim of compromising their civil status" and "swindling," an official of the office told AFP by telephone. Seven Spanish members of the flight crew that was to have flown the 103 children out of the country on Thursday were charged with "complicity."

Azerbaijan foils 'terrorist' attack

BAKU-Azerbaijani authorities have folied a "terrorist" attack by a radical islamic group against government facilities and diplomatic missions, including the US embassy, the Ministry for National Security said Monday. "We averted attempts at terrorist acts against some state structures in the city of Baku, as well as embassies and diplomatic missions of member countries of the International antiterrorist coalition," it said. Ministry spokesperson Arif Babayev told AFP the US embassy in Balo, was among the targets. Security was tight outside the embassy late Monday, with dozens of police standing guard. AFP

Somali premier resigns as crisis deepens

MOGADISHL-Somali Prima Minister Ali Mohamed Gesti resigned Monday following a long-running feud with the president, as the chaotic country sank deeper into a political, security and humanitarian crisis. Gedf's decision came amid an upsurge in violence in the capital Mogadishu that has seen thousands of residents flee fighting between Islamist insurgents and Ethiopianbacked government troops. He handed his resignation letter to President Abdullahi Yusuf Ahmed, who Immediately appointed Gedi's deputy, Salim Aliyow ibrow, as interim prime menister.

Israel's legal advisor stops Gaza power cuts

JERUSALEM-Israel's attorney general said on Monday that planned punitive cuts in electricity supplies to the Gaza Strip can not go ahead before a full assessment of the possible humanitarian consequences, Merahem Mazouz, who is also the government's legal adviser, said in a statement that "security chiefs must carry out supplementary examinations to take account of the humanitarian obligations before ordering electricity cuts."

DIANA INQUEST

Driver of mysterious Fiat Uno identified

LONDON-WITNESSES ON Monday pointed out the man they said drove the mysterious white Fiat Uno that conspiracy theorists have long associated with the death of princess Di-

The inquest into the deaths of Diana and her lover Dodi Rayed also heard that their driver was playing a game with photographers" and was behaving like an alcoholic shortly before the car crash in a Parisian underpass that killed him, Diana and Dodi.

Georges Dauzonne and his wife Sabine identified former securry guard Le Van Thanh as the driver of the white Uno which they said emerged from the Pont d'Alma tunnel after the highspeed crash on Aug. 30, 1997

The couple had been having dinner before driving home shortly after midnight on the night of the crash, with Georges Dauzonne saying he had attempted to ion an expressway next to the turnel, but was forced to slow down by a Fiat Uno that was driv-

ing emancally.

The inquest has previously heard that there is evidence that the Mercedes which Diana and Dodi were riding in collided with a white Fiat Uno just before it crashed, and traces of paint on the Mercedes's wreckage support this argument, though the car itself has never been found.

Ouestioned separately, both Georges and Sabine Dauzonne identified two photographs of Le-Van Thanh and his red Fiat Uno, among five they were shown in total, including one of photographer James Andanson whom Dodi's father Mohamed Al-Fayed alleges was the driver of the Uno in question.

"It is very difficult, but I would say the man in the first two photographs rings clearly a bell," Sabine Dauzonne told the hearing at London's High Court, referring to Le Van Thanh.

It has been reported that he had his car resprayed, though it is disputed whether he did this before or after the crash.



PAMPANGA I ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

STO DOMINGO, MEXICO, PAMPANGA Tel. Nos. (045/968-0604 / 875-0552) Fax. No. (045) 966-0270 E-mail pelco1_mexico72@yahoo.com

October 22, 2007

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Interested parties are hereby invited for the supply and delivery of the materials to be used for the following

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Submission of Pre-qualification Occuments - NOV 5-7, 2007 Bid Documents are available on - NOV 8-10, 2007

Oate and Time of Pre-bid Conference OPENING OF BIOS - NOV. 16, 2007 at 2PM

Bid documents can be availed from 8:00AM to 5:00PM thru the BAC Chairman or its members by paying the corresponding fee at PELCO (main office. Six: Domingo, Mexico, Pampanga, Accredited suppliers previously pre-qualified still need to update their files (If necessary) with PELCO I.

Bids shall be accompanied by a Bid Security (Cash, Manager's Check, Cashler's Check or Surely Bond) of at least 2.5% of the total bid amount.

PELCO I reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids including application to ore-qualify without stating any reason. For any inquiry, please contact the members of the BAC at telephone numbers stated above.

(Sgd.) ENGR, ROY M. DE LEON BAC Charman

(Sgd.) ENGR. LOLIANO E. ALLAS General Manager

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GE imagination at work

Editor Luverne B. Gueco

Iraq warns Turkey against incursion

ANKARA—TURKEY PARADED ITS MILITARY muscle on Monday, amid stern warnings from Baghdad that any large-scale Turkish incursion against Kurdish rebel bases in northern Iraq would have "disastrous" results.

In the capital Ankara, tanks the fighters from the Kurdistan and rocket launchers were on Workers' Party (PKK) in a bid to display in the annual national prevent them escaping across day parade as Turks celebrated the 84th anniversary of the secu- news agency reported. lar republic's creation by Mustafa Kemal Ataturk.

In stark contrast to the festive positions in mountainous areas mood across most of the country. Turkish troops faced off with some 100 rebels in the Ikiyaka mountains in the southeast.

The military had surrounded dad and Washington fail to

make good on promises to crack down on the rebels there.

Iraqi Foreign Minister Hoshyar Zebari warned Monday that such a move could have "disastrous consequences" and would be met with stiff Iraqi resistance.

"They are talking about a large-scale military incursion which is getting people extremely, extremely nervous and worinterview.

Describing the situation on the Turkish-Iraqi border as plained that Turkey "was not responsive" when Iraqi officials. Ataturk's imposing mausoleum flew to Ankara last week for on a hill overlooking Ankara.

According to Turkish media reports, some 100,000 Turkish troops have been deployed along the border over the past

Zebari also insisted that Turk-

ish demands for PKK leaders in northern Iraq to be rounded up and handed over were unrealis-

They are not under our conried," Zebari told the BBC in an trol in fact. They are up in the mountains, they are armed," he

Monday's celebrations saw "dead serious," Zebari com- President Abdullah Gul lead top officials on the traditional trek to



TURKISH soldiers man machine guns and air defense systems during a parade in Istanbul on Oct. 29 to mark the 84th foundation. anniversary of the republic of Turkey.

US got AIDS from Haiti in 1969, says study

WASHINGTON-THE AIDS virus invaded the United States in about 1969 from Haiti, carried most likely by a single infected immigrant who set the stage for it to sweep the world it was probably circulating for so known single infected Haitian immiin a tragic epidemic, scientists said on Monday.

Michael Worobey, a University of Arizona evolutionary biologist, said the 1969 US entry date is earlier than some experts had believed.

The timeline laid out in the study led by Worobey indicates that HIV infections were occurring in the United States for

roughly 12 years before AIDS was first recognized by scientists as a disease in 1981. Many people had died by that point.

the Iraqi border, the Anatolia

Witnesses saw helicopter gun-

Turkey has threatened a ma-

jor cross-border assault on PKK

bases in northern Iraq if Bagh-

ships pounding suspected rebel

on the Turkish side.

It is somehow chilling to know long under our noses," Worobey said in a telephone interview.

The researchers conducted a genetic analysis of stored blood samples from early AIDS patients to determine when the human emmunodeficiency virus (HIV) first entered the United States.

They found that HIV was brought to Haiti by an infected

person from central Africa in about 1966, which matches earlier estimates, and then came to the United States in about 1969.

The researchers think an ungrant arrived in a large city like Minmi or New York, and the virus circulated for years—first in the US population and then to other nations.

It can take several years after infection for a person to develop AIDS, a disease that ravages the immune system.

That one infection would have become two, and then it doubles

again and the two becomes four," Worobey said. "So you have a period-probably a fair number of probably fewer than a hundred people who are infected.

"And then, as with epidemic expansion, at some point the hundred becomes 200, you start getting into thousands, tens of thousands. And then quite rapidly you can be up into the hundreds of thousands of infections that were probably already there before AIDS was recognized in the early

Bill Clinton had sex addiction, says Ford

years—where you're dealing with WASHINGTON—DEAD MEN do tell tales: The late President Gerald Pord believed a successor, Bill Clinton, had a sex addiction and felt Hillary Clinton had "unlimited ambition" but the country was not ready for a woman president.

These juicy nuggets and more are included in private interviews Pord had with journalist Thomas DeFrank over the course of 16 years. DeFrank agreed to keep the conversations secret until Ford died, and after Ford's death at age 93 last December, DeFrank has published his book, "Write It When I'm Gone."

Ford called Clinton "the best polincian I've ever seen ... This guy can sell three-day old 10e ... He's that good." But he noticed during a visit by the Clintons to the Fords' Colorado home in 1993 that Clinton seemed to have a

"I'll tell you one thing: he didn't miss one good-looking skirt at any of the social occasions," Ford said. "He's got a wandering eye ... He isn't very subtle about his interest."

During Clinton's impeachment hearings in 1998 in a case involving Clinton's affair with White House intern Monica Lewinsky, Pord told DeFrank that he and his wife, Betty, had talked a lot about the subject (Ms Ford had battled problems with alcohol and painkillers in 1978)

"I'm convinced that Clinton has a sexual addiction. He needs to get help-for his sake. He's already damaged his presidency beyond repair," Ford said

Frank recounts a remarkable phone conversation in which Clinton lobbied for Ford's public support during the impeachment

Zamboanga City Electric Cooperative, Inc. (ZAMCELCO)

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Unit UNITS Countity

(POI-October 30 & 31, 2007)

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25 KV PHASE TO PHASE ITEM NO 55

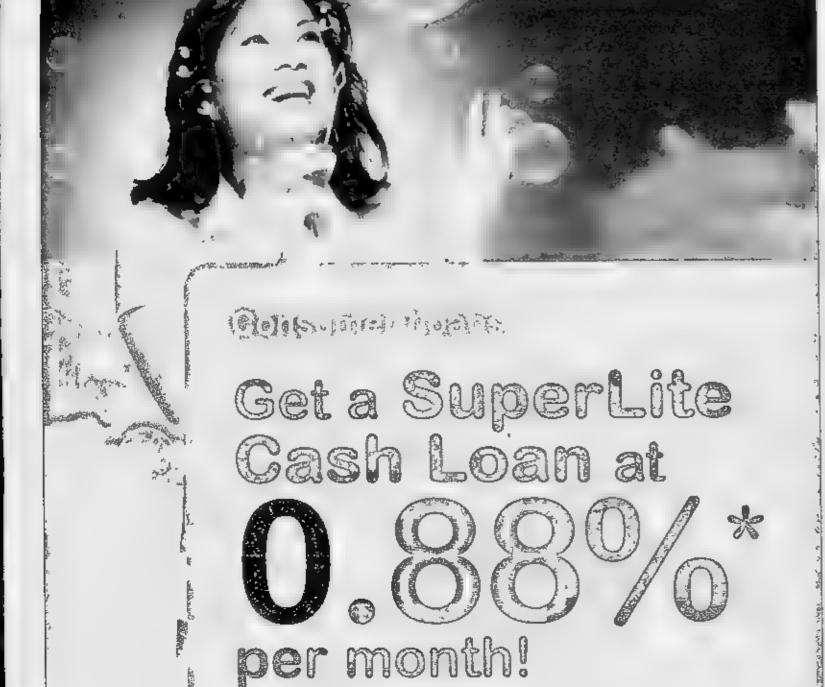
CATALOG NO C408-0181GA AGENCY PRICE: P7,500.00 per unit You may secure the Pre-qualification Requirements from the office of the Finance Generiment, ZAMCELCO Complex in Public this city anytime during office hours and submit the same upon completion of all requirements themsol

Submission of the Pre-qualification Requirements shall not be later than 5:00 pm of rember 5, 2007 and no documents appartaining thereto, shall be accepted hereafter All applicants will be duly notified as to the results of the pre-qualification eligibility process. Only those who are pre-qualified will be allowed to participate in the bidding. A post-quaincatem may be conducted accordingly hereafter

Bidding will be conducted on November 13, 2007 Seeled hid in deplicate copies should be submitted to the Committee on Bids and Awards at the Office of the Figurea Department at the above-mentioned address on or belgra 2.00 p.m. of November 13, 2007. Five percent (5%) Bidder's Bond is required as 5

The right to reject any or all bids, to waive any formality financin, or to accept such bid as may be considered advantageous to the coop is hereby reserved as an absolute prerogative of ZAMCELCO

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The Burgaio Senaral ng Priponas (957°), Burough às Suis and Awards Corporation (SAC), aveaus budders to shiphy for elaphiley and to bell for the hereuarder project Approved Budget for the Contract Stame of Project/Brief Description Equipment Cost US\$253,800 00 Dramarstimptinsuafishion Cost PS.TZZ,806.00

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One (11 to 1 Supply, Install and stalks operational two (2) units Peasonger elevators at BSP Ls Union Regional Office per BSP acops of works and specification Ome; to: Supply install and make operational one (1) and alexator for the Convention Held Building SSRQ Device per BSP scope of works and

One (1) for - supply, install and make operational six (f)) suits Excatations at the Bellingston Belling. Philogonic indementional Convention Center Compile. Rause Bled. Passy City per 60F scope of works and Per BEP Terres of Reference

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Prospective biodesis should have undertaken at least street [3] completed switter contacts within the test limit [5] years: 2002 to present, with an appregate amount of as easy, 50% of the ABC of the tools to be but, one of which coass at least 25% of the ABC. Prospective broders, for saveralt lots, should have undertaken at feast tweet (1) conscious skinds contracts within the test five (5) years (2002 to present) with an appregate amount of at least 50% of the test with the hepesty ABC one of which coast at least 25% of the part and ABC. The English Check/Scratching as well as the Professional of the five state of the saverage o

All particulars retrieve to Esquisity Standards and Schedung Bid Socurity Performance Security Pre-bidding Conference(s) Evaluation of Bids. Post quarticulars and Award at Contract shall be governed by the pertinant

Activities	Schedula
tenuance of the December 18	Starting 95 November 2007
Pro 4nd Conference	15 December 2007, .0.30 A.M.
Оропла об Ван	06 January 2008, 2:00 P.M.
Bid Eve o letter	Those snall be in appoidence with the prescribed period
Post-buells at 00	allowed in the Implementing Rules & Regulations (IRSI-/
Notice of Award	of R.A. No. 9164 pated 10 January 2003, as smerided

The BSP assumes no responsibility whitipatives to conspany also undersuly backets for any expenses incomes in the proper about the both The BSP resource; the right to resect any or all but proposals, or deciare the bidding a tellure, or you event the contract, and makes no assurptice that it contract phall be entered into as a result of this revisition

(Sgd.) JUAN DE ZURIGA, JR.

We find ways



Editor Teddyvic S. Melendres

Assistant Editor Francis T. J. Ochoa.

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GAMES SATURDAY

(The Arena, San Joan)

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By Jasmine W. Payo

JASON CASTRO CAME THROUGH in the final stretch as the Harbour-Philippine team recovered from a near-catastrophic collapse with a 103-92 victory over Toyota Balintawak in the PBL V-Go Extreme Energy Drink Cup yesterday at the Ninoy Aquino Stadium.

Castro drained nine crucial points in the last five minutes to hold off the Road Kings, who fought back from a 56-32 hole and managed to creep to within

"As I've always said, we have no problem with our offense; our problem is our defense," said coach Junel Baculi after the nationals upped their record to 3-1

Erwin Sta. Maria and JV Casio burned back-to-back triples as the Road Kings trimmed a 24-point deficit to just three, before Castro responded with a key triple to

defuse the raily. The nationalswho are training for

the Southeast Asian Games in Thailand this December—took off early with big men Beau Belga, Chad, Alonzo, Salangsang and Alex Crisano looking to spoil the Road Kings'

tre vs Pharex 4 p.m.—AP Team vs bid for the solo lead. Castro, the nation-

al crew's top-ranked guard, topscored with 19 points aside from compiling five assists, two steals and one

Earlier, Harbour Centre similarly withstood Bacchus Energy Drink's late comeback to forge an 87-74 triumph and claim a share of the top

The three-time champions drew breakout performances from Fil-Am Solomon Mercado Gonzales during a crucial stretch

Gonzales unloaded back to-back baskets that sparked a 13-0 run to push Batang Pier comfortably back on top, 83-66, in the fourth period after nearly blowing a 21 point cush-

"Those were insurance baskets," said coach Jorge Galient after Batang Pier joined Hapee for the early lead in the young tournament. "Everybody contributed. Our defense was окау, there was just a time that we relaxed."

HARBOUR CENTRE 87-Mercado 16, Malerhofer 15, Asoro 14, Vergara 8, Geco 7, Malabanan 6, Cahizares 4, Gonzales 4,

Taylor 3, Adolfo 3, Tang 3, Gamboa 2, Jahnke 0. BACCHUS 74-Thiele 20, Martinez 16, Mondragon 9, Deta Cruz 9. Fampulme 4, Llagas 4, Vlardo 4, Dizon 3, Cagoco 3,

Guevarra 2, Labagala 0, Mendoza 0. Quarters: 24-14, 53-36, 67-55, 87-74

Second Game SIP TEAM 103—Castro 19, Belga 14, Bautista 13, Crisano \$1. Salangsang 10. Chan 10. Alonzo 9, Cabahug 6, Fernandez 4. Deta Cuesta 4, Cop. 2, Tap 1.

TOYOTA BALINTAWAK 92-Villanueva 17 Caslo 14 Aicaraz 13, Sta. Maria 11. Guerrero 8, Jainne 8, Dedicatoria 8, Aj-dave 5, Balgos 4, Faundo 2, Sena 2, Hayes 0, Waisham 8, Cole

Quarters: 26-16, 51-32, 74-62, 103-92



RP TEAM guard Jeff Chan (right) tries a reverse against the defense of Toyota's Brian Faundo in yesterday's game. ERIX ARAZAS



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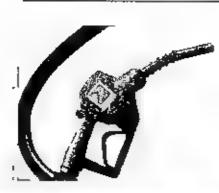
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Cojuangco appointed OCA adviser

By Marc Anthony Reyes

PHILIPPINE OLYMPIC COMMITTEE PRESIdent Jose "Peping" Copuangco was named adviser of the Olympic Council of Asia yesterday.

Council president Sheikh Ahmad Al-Pahed Al Sabah, in a communication sent to the POC office, said they are "confident that the OCA will benefit from your knowledge, expenence

The OCA chief made the announcement in the sidelines of the ongoing Asian Indoor Dames in Macau.

Cojuangeo, who is on top of the preparation for the country's Southeast Asian Games titleretention bid, accepted the appointment with gratitude and promised to fulfill his duty as an OCA elder official.

Meanwhile, POC spokesman Joey Romasanta bared that Solar Sports will handle the Philippine broadcast of the Benjing Olympics next year

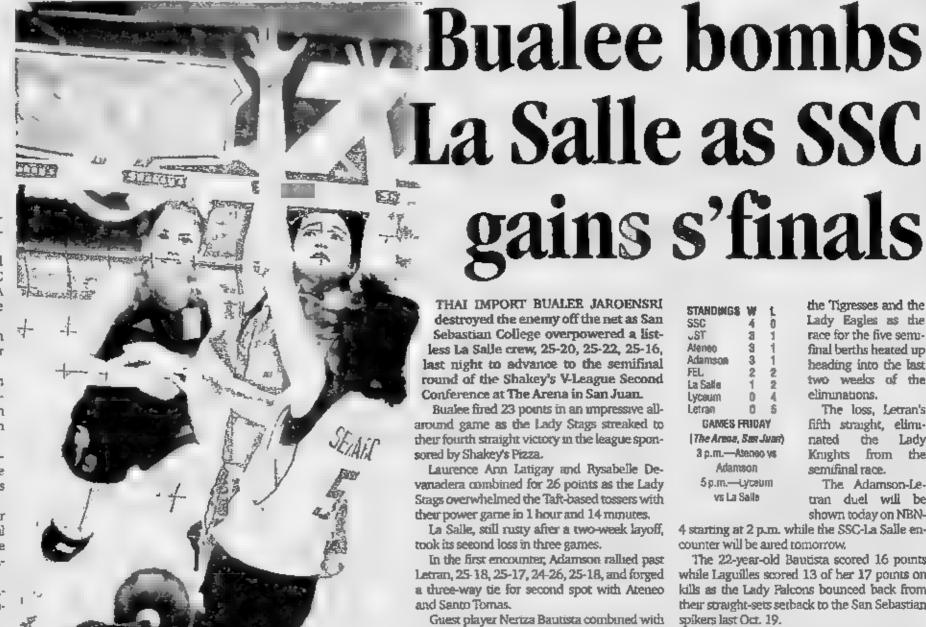
He refused to discuss details but said Solar Sports, which carried the exploits of national boxing hero Manny Pacquiao, obtained the right to telecast the Games from the International Olympic Committee.

The Philippines, which has so far only qualified four athletes to the Beijing Games, is hoping to win its first-ever Olympic gold medal.

Romasanta also said no broadcast right has been awarded for the Thailand SEA Games. He said Thailand will feed "live" footage for free, although local TV outfits willing to carry

the action live will have to pay a fee.

Pantaleon and Krizelle Moralejo (left).



ADAMSON'S Janet Serafica hammers one in off Letran's Bangladesh

La Salle as SSC gains s'finals THAI IMPORT BUALER JAROENSRI STANDINGS W

UST

FEL.

5 p.m.—Lyceum

vs La Salle

destroyed the enemy off the net as San Sebastian College overpowered a listless La Salle crew, 25-20, 25-22, 25-16, last night to advance to the semifinal round of the Shakey's V-League Second Conference at The Arena in San Juan.

Bualee fired 23 points in an impressive allaround game as the Lady Stags streaked to their fourth straight victory in the league sponsored by Shakey's Pizza.

Laurence Ann Latigay and Rysabelle Devanadera combined for 26 points as the Lady Stags overwhelmed the Taft-based tossers with their power game in 1 hour and 14 minutes.

La Salle, still rusty after a two-week layoff, took its second loss in three games.

In the first encounter, Adamson rallied past Letran, 25-18, 25-17, 24-26, 25-18, and forged a three-way tie for second spot with Ateneo and Santo Tomas.

Guest player Neriza Bautista combined with Rissa Laguilles for 29 points while the rest backed them up with a superb coverage to thwart the Lady Knights and complete the victory, the Lady Falcons' third in four starts.

The win kept the Lady Falcons in step with

the Tigresses and the Lady Eagles as the race for the five semi-Atenen final berths heated up Adamson heading into the last two weeks of the La Salle eliminations. Lycaum Letran The loss, Letran's

GAMES FRIDAY fifth straight, elimi-(The Arena, San Juan) nated the Lady 3 p.m.—Ateneo ys Knights from the Adamson semifinal race.

> The Adamson-Letran duel will be shown today on NBN-

4 starting at 2 p.m. while the SSC-La Salle encounter will be aired tomorrow.

The 22-year-old Bautista scored 16 points while Laguilles scored 13 of her 17 points on kills as the Lady Palcons bounced back from their straight-sets setback to the San Sebastian spikers last Oct. 19.

For updates on the country's premier volley league, organized by Sports Vision and supported by Mikasa, Accel, 100Plus Isotonic Drink and Active White Skin whitening products, log on to www.v-league.ph.

Crippled Kings battle Aces; Bulls vs Express

STANDINGS W Purelocds Magnolia Talk 'N Text Alr21 Red Sull Alaska Welcoat Sta. Lucia Coca-Cola Ginebra GAMES TODAY 4:35 p.m.—Red Bull vs Alt21 20 p.m.—Alaska

vs Ginabra

Mark Caguioa and Eric Menk will recover from their injuries and finally see action for Barangay Ginebra as early as next week.

But until that happens, coach Jong Uichico and his Kings will have to learn how to survive without them in the Smart-PBA Philippine Cup at the Cuneta Astrodome.

"We're still trying to find ways to win without them," said Uichaco, whose Kings take on the Alaska Aces today reeling from the impact of back-to-back losses inflicted by Talk 'N Text and Welcoat.

during the preseason while Menk, Gmebra's ever-reliable man in the middle, strained his calf muscle more than a week ago.

While the 111-102 Talk N Text defeat was understandable, Ginebra's degrading 82-64 debacle to Welcoat in Roxas City, Capiz last week was unacceptable.

"As a coach, all we can ask the players is to play hard," said Uichico, "We don't have control over how other teams perform, but we have control over what we can achieve."

In the absence of Caguioa and Menk, who Caguioa, the team's prolific scorer, is recu- are scheduled to return a week from now,

THERE'S A STRONG POSSIBILITY THAT perating from a shoulder injury he suffered. Ukcheco will have to draw more than the usual from the likes of Jayjay Helterbrand, Ronald Tubid, Billy Mamaril, Rafi Reavis, Mark Macapagal and Sunday Salvacion.

Red Bull's manpower shortage will also be the focus of Air21's attack in the other game with coach Yeng Guiao returning from a onegame suspension following his outburst during the Bulls' 102-95 loss against the Kings.

Junthy Valenzuela, the PBA Press Corps Accel-Smart Player of the Week, will have to chure out another sterling performance against the Express similar to his career-best 27-point output over Welcost, June Navarro

Andam boosts RP cast to 14 in World Pool

THE QUALIFIERS: L.s. Hul-Chan, Chinese-Talpel (Qualifying 1); Kerichi Ichigaid, Japan (0-2); Ko Pin-yi, Chinese-Taipei (0-3); Wu Yu-lun, Chinesa-Taipet (Q-4); Alwi, Indonesia (Q-5); Laonardo Andam (Q-6).

By Marion Bernardino, Contributor

overwhelmed Jharome Peña, 9-4, in an all-Filmino finals late Monday right at the Star Billiards Center in Quezon City and became the first Filipino-other than his seeded compatriots—to qualify to the World Pool Championships.

Andam's victory in the 84 player sixth qualifying tournament earned him a Group 2 benth in the main draw and a Monday encounter with last year's WPC losing finalist Ralf Souquet of Germany.

With Andam through, the Philippines boosted its cast of entries to 14 in the championship which starts hard for him," said Andam in Filipino. Saturday at the Araneta Coliseum.

The seeded Filipinos are Efren "Baia" Reyes, Francisco "Django" Bustamante, Alex Pagulayan, Ronne Al-



VETERAN CAMPAIGNER LEONARDO ANDAM LEONARDO Andam forges a clash with Raff Souquet.

cano, Lee Vann Corteza, Dennis Orcollo, Marlon Manalo, Antomo Lining, Ramil Gallego, Rodolfo Luat, Joven Bustamante, Jeffrey de Lima and Antonio Gabica.

Chinese Taipers Lu Hurchan, Ko Pin-yi and Wu Yuhan, Japan's Keruchi Ichigaki and Indonesia's Alwi secured the first five qualifiers' berths.

Andam bowed to Souquet, 8-4, in the opening round of last year's championship.

"Because Soquet beat me last year, I will prepare

Actually, it was Aiwi, an Indonesian who was born in Mindanao, and Ichgaki who halted the Taiwanese domination of the first five qualifiers.

Bondad earns Euro Tour card

By Musong R. Castillo

FRANCES BONDAD, A FULL BLOODED FILIPINA playing for Australia, on Friday earned a full card in next year's Ladies European Tour after finishing third in a tough qualifying tournament in Italy.

The 19-year-old former winner of the RP Ladies Amareur and member of the 2005 RP team in the Southeast Asian Games, checked in two strokes behind winner Dana Lacey of Australia with an 11-under total at the Le Fonti Golf Club.

Bondad fired five birdies against two bogeys in the final day for a three-under 69 to become the last in her batch to earn a year's exemption after Lacey and amateur Lydia Hall of Wales.

She also had rounds of 72, 69 and 67 and became just the second Filipmo, after Mary Grace Estuesta in the last decade, to make the effice Tour.

"This is definitely a great honor, not only for myself, my family but for the Philippines as well," Bondad told

the Inquirer in an overseas call.

"I'm still very Pinay at heart and every time I go out there to play, I know the people of the Philippines will be behind me," she added.

Congress cares

BACOLOD REP. MONICO PUENTEvella, a former commissioner of the Philippine Sports Commission, has filed House Bill 2485 amending certain provisions of Republic Act 9064, or the Sports Incentives Act.

According to Puentevella, RA 9064 has a very laudable objective. It is, however, limited in scope because it excluded the biggest names in Philippine sports who were primarily responsible for putting the country in the international map.

Through the years, I have been appealing to the members of Congress to consider amending RA 9064 by including the winners of non-Olympic sports such as bowling, billiards and golf and the medalists in the Paralympic Games. At last, my appeal has been heeded.

In an email, Puentevella said. "I follow your column as I have always respected the knowledge and insights you have on Philippine sports. Your recent column showed your advocacy for the welfare of our athletes. You have consistently advocat-



ed for the rights of world sports legends such as (bowler) Paeng Nepomuceno and (billiards player) Efren "Bata" Reyes, I think it is also time that I do my share.

"I no longer serve as chair of the House committee on youth and sports development as the Speaker and my colleagues have selected me chair of the House committee on transportation.

"However, as a legislator, I will do my best to have your advocacy heard in the House of Representatives. It is to this end that I have proposed House Bill 2485, amending certain provisions of RA 9064. The salient points of the bill are the inclusion of the following:

 Winners of world championships for billiards and bowling, like Bata Reyes and Paeng Nepomuceno, to finally get their due;

 World title fight winners in boxing sanctioned by internationally recognized boxing organizations such as world champions Gabriel "Flash" Elorde, Rolando Navarette, Luisito Espinosa, Gerry and Dodie Boy Peñalosa and Manny Pacquiao.

 Tournament champions in the four majors of the PGA or LPGA

And the medal winners in the quadrennial Paralympic Games and the biennial Special Olympics. This is to honor the differently abled and intellectually challenged athletes. Earlier, Negros Occidental Rep.

Jose Carlos "Kako" Lacson filed House Bill 2265 to also amend RA 9064 to include the differently abled athletes.

Dance sport has come of age. Since it was founded in 1996, the Dance Sport Council of the Philippenes has made

enormous sundes.

"Over the years we were able to survive despite our limited resources," said tireless DSCP president Becky Garcia, who heads the governing body for dance sport recognized by the Philippine Olympic Committee.

Last Oct. 13, the association held its 11th National Champsonships-Alaxan FR Cup, with 2005 SEA Games silver medalists Emmanuel Reyes and Maira Rosete leading the winners in the Standard discipline and Gerald Jamili and Carol Bacera, Masato Miyachi-Sarah Lim and Rene Lavestre-Karen Ann Navarente-Anton bagging the golds in the Latin division.

Other gold medalists included German Enriquez-Rowena Balonzo, Muchael Marquez-Victoria Mae Huyalid, Edgardo Ladimo-Winifnda Constantino, Anselmo Estillore-Mae Lozada, Jack Poloyapoy-Ma. Luz Planas, Jonathan Muli-Jennylyn Manansala, Inoue Roi Rendon-Christy Kim Velez, Renante Saldua Victoria Alix and Mark Joseph Pernandez-Barbie Caryl Valiente.

SPORTSWATCH

Makisig TV launches four major int'l pool tourneys

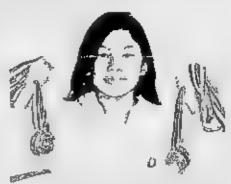
FOUR BIG 9-BALL EVENTS HEADLINED by the Philippines' finast due masters have been lined up starting in the first quarter of next year after Makisig Network and Bugsy Promotions inked a pact recently.

Reigning double world champion Ronnie Alcano will banner the RP charge in at least three of the four events that will carry handsome purses as Makisig, which was launched two weeks ago, threw its hat into the pool arena.

A regional showdown, a la The Con-" tender formation TV, is expected to be the first project. This will pit five players from Luzon against five from the Visayas in a virtual reality series alred live by Makisig over Skycable and IBC13

The second endeavor will be Alcano vs. Wu Chia-ching, the youthful former world champion from Taiwan as they clash in a

"This is just our small way of making the dreams of our countryman happen, and that is to get the most exposure in pool as possible," said Makisig chair Hermie Esguerra. "The Filipino is a world power in the sport, let's harness it."



CATHERINE Bondad flaunts potential.

Laguna mermaid grabs 7 CATHER NE BONDAD SHOWED A LOT OF

promise as a future national swimmer, winning seven gold medals in eight events during the Philippine Olympic Festival Naga City leg recently. The 9-year-old Laguna bet topped the

200m individual medley, the 100 backstroke, 50 freestyle, 400 free, 50 butterfly and was a member of Laguna's victorious 4x50 free and 4x50 medley relay quartets.

Her older brother Devron II, took home five silver medals (100 free, 100 back, 50 free, 200 back) and one bronze (200 fly).

Bondad, a Grade 3 scholar student from Blue Danube School, actually spearheaded the charge of Laguna Aquatics, which dominated the aquatics competition.

Race 1-(0:1/70) -Taste N'See (5), Showgirl (2), Beautiful Smits (1), Smile (1). Posse Comi-BY TOP CHOICE

latus (8) latus (6)
Race 2—(Crt/Trl)—Carry Over (6), Getting Better (2),
Mathematics (4), Carron Rusing (5)
Race 3—{Pertia/Crt/Trl}—Riger Raffy (7), Undeashed
(6). Now Showing (6), Reptold (4), War Bird (2)
Race 4—{Trl}—Money Bark (1), Easy Lovar (4), You
Got II, AWRose N Fire (2)
Race 6—{Pertia/Crt/Trl}—Please Don't Stop (8), Jeweitner (3), Stingray (5), El Love Senora (3), Honores (6)

Pres (5)

Race 5—(Crt/Tri)—Madem Composite (2), Memory of Fire (1), Doomstead (4). Matikas (5)

Race 7—(Penta/Crt/Tri)—Red Gown (5), Manapla (4), Rogue Knight (3). Hailey's Cornet (8), Golden Square/Oreanth Again (9)

Rece 3—(Super G/Crt/Tri)—Stent Operator (7), Crew

Cut (3), Senionity (8), Yanong Rikit (4), XX Cool Reception (6), Joker (1)

Boxing gold medals no longer for sale?

By Percy D. Della

SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

—Now that Anwar Chowdry's
despotic regime as president
of the International Boxing
Association (Aiba) is over, are
Filipino boxers a step closer to
winning the country's first
Olympic gold medal?

The outlook looks bright as three out of our seven boxers competing in the world boxing championships in Chicago are uterally a jab away from earning a trip to Beijing.

The Chicago matches serve as amateur boxing's first qualifying competition for the Summer Games next year.

It's also the first world amateurs in 20 years without Chowdry around. The Pakistani was ousted last year—his long run finally screeching to a halt—along with its black eyes of financial shenarigans and corrupted judging.

No one dared touch the tyrant's rule and its glaring corruption, even though there had been fould howls—including protests from the Philippines—over judging at every world championships and Olympics during Chowory's watch.

The beginning of the end came in the form of a book authored by Andrew Jennings in 1996. Jennings, an investigative reporter for London's Daily Mail newspaper detailed in "The New Lords of the Rings," the judge-bribing and the despot's heavy-handed approach in dealing with ring offices two dated cross him.

cials who dared cross him.

Among the boxers who

stewed under bad judging in Chowdry's time were Roy Jones. who lost a disputed light middleweight finals in the Seoul Olympics in 1988; and Floyd Mayweather, beaten 10-9 by Bulgaria's Serafim Todorov in the featherweight semifinals of the Atlanta Games in 1996.

Incidentally, it was in Arlanta where Mansueto "Onyok" Velasco won the last boxing medal a silver—for the Philippines in the Olympics. Velasco lost to Daniel Bojdov of Bulgana in the finals.

Nonetheless, Velasco's feat added luster to a distinguished boxing family's history. His brother, Roel, won a bronze medal in the same division in Barcelona four years earlier.

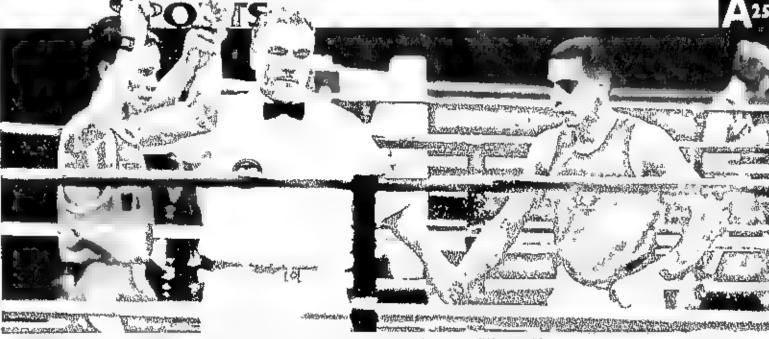
Aiba's new president, Wu Ching-kuo of Tarwan, calls the Chicago edition of the biennial world meet the "championships of renewal."

There are 623 boxers from 114 countries competing in the Windy City—a marked increase from 74 countries at the world meet in China two years ago.

"This is a new culture for Aiba," Wu took the Los Angeles Times. "We will let everyone know there is no more corruption no more manipulation, no more control of the referees and judges for any competition."

These words are probably reverberating in the ears of Manny Lopez and the brass of Philippine amateur boxing.

They know all too well that boxers could be very well trained but end up ill-starred in the wake of spotty officiating



THE REFEREE raises the hand of Filipino Harry Tañamor as he wins over Nasir Mohammed of Wales on Monday. HANNY ZAMERANO/ CHCAGO CORRESPONDENT

3 Pinoy pugs underdogs

By Donnis U. Eroa, Inquirer Libre

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS—THEY FEEL GOOD ABOUT THEIR CHANCES, but Violito Payla and Harry Tañamor know that making it to the 2008 Beijing Olympics is easier said than done.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INCUIRER

Payla, a flyweight, and the light flyweight Tañamor exchange punches with their highly rated foss in the round of 16 of the Aiba World Boxing Championships here Wednesday, with the winners advancing to the quarterfinals and earning tickets to Beijing.

Payla battles Rau'shee Warren, who is bidding to become the first American boxer in 30 years to

Payla, a flyweight, and the compete in two Olympics. Like the flyweight Tañarnor expayla, Warren competed but ange punches with their highly failed to reach the medal round in the 2004 Athens Olympics.

Quick and sharp with his jabs and hooks, the 20-year-old Warren won the bronze in the 2005 world meet in Mianyang, China.

Lightweight Genebert Basadre will also seek a Beijing berth on Wednesday at the University of

Illinois-Chicago Pavision here.

Tañamor is ranged against Shera... Dosbey of Tajikistan, while Basadre collides with Hrachik Javakhyan of Armenia.

The Armeman pug silenced the Pavilion crowd Monday when he beat American Sadam A.i., 20-16.

Tanamor beat Dostiev in the reliminary rounds at the Athens Olympics and knows the rapid-firing Tajik is hungry for revenge.

"I'm sure he remembers me from Athens," Tanamor said in Filipino. "I'm ready for him."

Monday was a rest day but the

RPPLDT Smart boxing team still practiced Monday under the watchful eyes of coaches Pat Gaspi and Ronald Chavez.

"Warren is slippery but I've fought a lot of fighters like him before," said Payla, who is dedicating his next bout to his three-year-old daughter Bea.

Both Payla and Warren are southpaws

"It's not going to be easy, but Payla has the game to win this one," said Gaspi. "We're fighting a hometown bet and we need a very clear win."

Pacman pool: De Luna trips Orcollo, pockets P1M

RISING POOL STAR JEFFREY DE LUNA pulled the rug from under the favored Dennis Orcolo, 11-9, over the weekend to bag the P1-million champion's purse in the P2-million Manny Pacquiao International 9-Ball Open at the SM Mall of Asia in Pasay City.

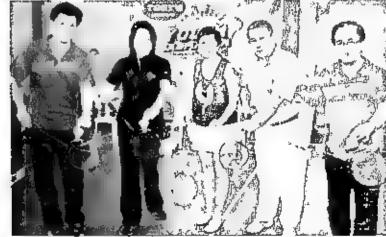
De Luna, the 23-year-old Doha Asiad silver medalist, raced to a 6-0 lead before fading in the next four as Orcoalo crept within 6-4.

The man known in billiards circle as "Jeff Bata" nailed the crucial 19th rack to go up, 10-9 before clinching the crown in the next.

Orcollo settled for the P500,000 runner-up purse in the maiden tournament that drew 128 international players.

De Luna earlier obsted Rodolfo "Boy Samson" Luat, 10-6, in the semifinals.

Marlon Bernardino, Contributor



YOUTH BADMINTON: Toby's Sports president Jojo Claudio, Dunlop Slazenger Philippines GM Cecille Reyes, tournament organizer Dina Guerrero, guest Freddie Infante and Toby's Group of Companies CEO and chair Bobby Claudio Sr. (from left) do the ceremonial serve in Sunday's opening of the fifth Toby's Youth Badminton Championships over the weekend at the West Drive Badminton court in Pasig City.

MOTORING TIPS



Preparing for long "haul-days"

Long hor days are here again. That means millions of people will be trooping to provinces and cemeterles for All Saint's & All Soul's Day it signing to be a long haul for you and your car if you pran to do the same. These following tips will help you reach your destination safely and hassle-free.



Prepare your vehicle

Better to be safe than sorry. Check the brakes, tire pressure, tire condition, engine oil, and coolant. Make sure you have a working spare tire, a flashlight, car tools and a jack. Have your vehicle checked by an accredited automotive service center before a long trip.

Prepare for rainy weather

The weather during All Saints Day & Ail Souls' Day are very unpredictable. Better be prepared for heavy downpour while on the road. Make sure your wipers are working properly and wiper biades are in good condition, too.





Keep your seatbelts on Make sure that air passengers are wearing their seatbelts properly. As de from being a law, it is for your own safety. Please take the lead and

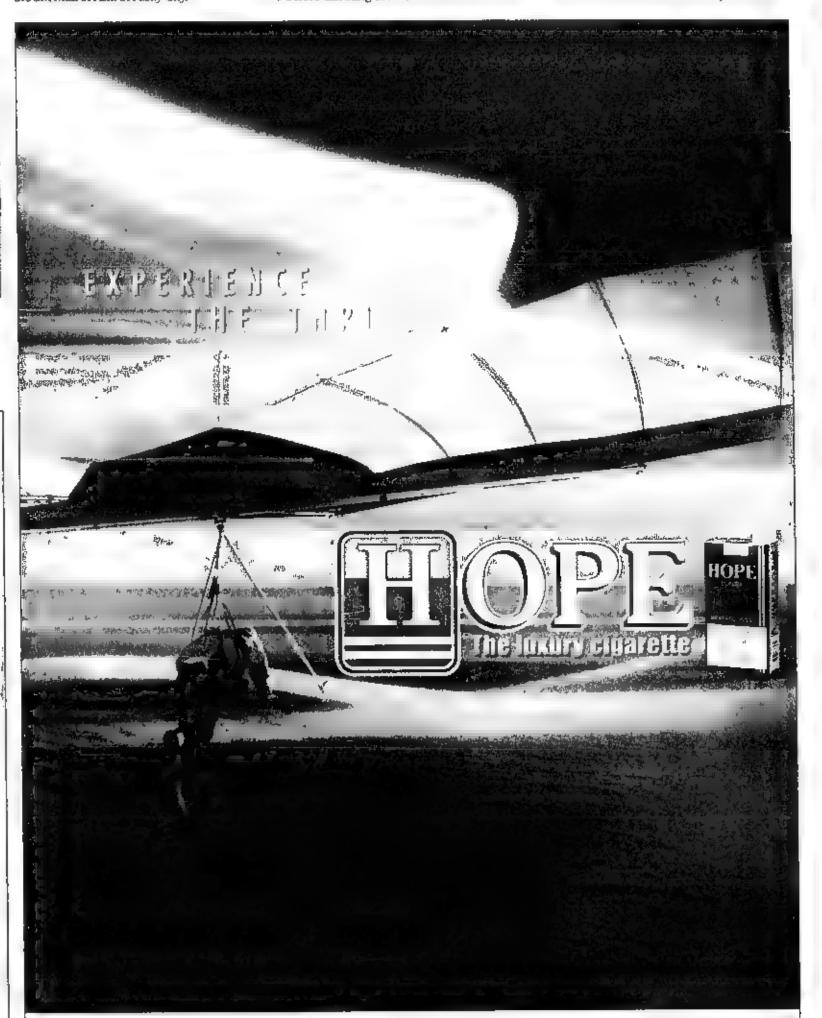
Do not overspeed

Speeding to cut travel time is dangerous and against the law. Remember that highways are packed with honday traffic. Always follow the speed limit to avoid accidents.



Suzuki Philippines, known for its quality, high-performance yet fuel efficient vehicles, affordability, safety and environment-friendiness, not only promotes driving convenience and efficiency but also edvocates responsible driving to motorists all

emind at the rest



Government Warning: Cigarette smoking is dangerous to your health. **BRYANT:** Staying or leaving?

Demand crashes site as Olympic tickets go on sale

BEIL NG-T CKETS TO THE BEIJING OLYMPICS WENT ON SALE IN China on a first-come, first-served basis Tuesday, but overwhelming demand crashed the computer ticketing system. More than eight hours after ticket sales began, the online ticketing site had a note saying the system was busy and to check back later



wrapped in uncertainty

GAMES YOUAY (Assistant 71)

6 a.m.—Portland vs San Antonio

10:30 a.m.--- Utah vs Golden Stale

Paris Masters: Ancic rallies past Mathieu

PARIS-MARIO AND CIRALLIED TO BEAT PAUL-HENRI MATHIEU, 4-6 6-2, 6-3, in the first round of the Parls Masters on Monday, setting up a match against 2005 champ on Tomas Berdych. The Croatlan beat Mathieu for the third time as four meetings, the most recent being on Oct. 18. in the third round of the Madrid Masters



Lakers launch their NBA campaign by hosting the Houston Rockets on Tresday with All Star guard Kobe Bryant expected to start despite struggling with a pre-season wrist injury.

Bryant, one of the NBA's biggest draws, has made a habit of hogging the limelight and was the subject of recent trade speculation with the latest rumors linking hun to the Chicago Bulis.

Although Lakers head coach Phil Jackson was entical of Bryant's commument over the weekend, the 62-year old is confident his top player will remain in Los Angeles for the time being.

"The chances (of Bryant departing) are very slim," Jackson told reporters at the Lakers training facility in El

Segundo. "Not too many people come out and deal honorably at firesale time, and this is not firesale time. Here we are going on

five months and we're happy the season is starting. "If he (Bryant) can reorient himself or we resolve (things), then we are the team we were last year to start the season. There's nothing but a positive as-

pect in this regard." Five months ago, Bryant rocked the Lakers when he told a local radio station he wanted to be traded from the team, before changing his mind a few

Bryant, who helped the Lakers win three consecutive NBA championships from 2000-2002, has

LOS ANGELES—THE LOS ANGELES been deeply upset by the team's lack of success over the last three seasons.

The Los Angeles side failed to qualify for the playoffs in their first campaign without Shaquille O'Neal and have been eliminated in the first round for the last two seasons.

An NBA veteran of 11 years, Bryant has also become increasingly disappointed by the team's rebuilding process since O'Neal was traded to Miami in 2004 and allegations that he was instrumental in prompting O'Neal's departure

Jackson, a shrewd motivator, questioned Bryant's commitment to the team during squad practice on

"Obviously he hasn't thrown his heart and soul

into performing on the floor," he said. "That hurts me a little "He was going to work at

this thing and put his full being into this. Right now, he's having a hard time doing that." Bryant, who missed the Lakers' final exhibition

contest on Friday with a sprained right wrist, believes Jackson has little cause for concern.

"You don't have to worry about that," he said. "I am ready to play, period. You don't have to worry about me."

An All-Star for the last nine seasons, Bryant will match up on Tuesday with one of the league's other marketing dynamos—Houston center Yao Ming.

San Antonio, Portland, Utah and Golden State also see action on opening day. Reuters



THE CAMP of Yi Jinlian (left) no longer have to worry about the Chinese rookie spending time on the bench. Yi was named to the Milwaukee Bucks' starting roster along with guards Mo Williams (center) and Michael Redd (right), center Andrew Bogut and forward Desmond Mason.

Bucks give Yi starting job

MILWAUKEE-YI JIANLIAN will be in Milwaukee's starting lineup when the Bucks open the NBA season in Orlando on Wednesday.

The lineup unveiled on Monday by coach Larry Krystkowiak includes the 6foot 11 forward from China.

Also getting a starting nod is veteran forward Desmond Mason, who signed as a free agent in the offseason to rejoin his former team.

Other starters are guards Mo Williams and Michae. Redd and Australian center Andrew Bogut

Bogut is currently trying to help Yi settle into his new home.

Bogut, an Australian who was the top overall selection in the 2005 draft, knows what it's like to play in the NBA as a foreigner carrying the expectations of a nation.

"Tve been here long enough to know that you've got to be different as an international player," said Bogut, who played two years of US college basketball before becoming the first Australian selected No. 1. "I think international players take it a bit harder when they get to the league. You've just got to figure out you've got 82 games, forget about the last game and look to the next game." AR AFP

Olympic swim hopefuls eye SEAG

By Marc Anthony Reyes

MORE THAN JUST WINNING gold medals in the Southeast Asian Games, the national swimmers will also be vying for Olympic slots in the December sportsfest in Thailand

Five more swimmers are exected to gain Olympic berths through the SEAG according to

aquatics chief Mark Joseph.

Diving has its own Olympic qualifying where the country has strong chances of sending two to

Double-gold medalist Molina will lead the SEAG tankers that will include Arabejo, Walsh, Daniel Coaldey Nikita Dacera, Ernest Dee, Ronald Guiriba, Kendrick Uy, Denjylie Cordero, Ma. Georgina Gandionco, Anna Celina Gonzalez, Jackie Pangilinan, Nicole Sannago and Erica Totten.

The new Mazda Tribute 2.31. Price starts at P1.099M.

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NET RESULT: Champions of the recent Accel-PCA Open Age Group Championships show their trophies with tournament organizers. From left, Fritz Verdad, Jacob Lagman, Mark Balce, Vince Tabotabo, PCA president Rey Beltran, Samantha Coyiuto, tournament chair Mike Misa, Ericka Lagura, Accel manager Joy Dimacali, Enah Baba, Regma Sandago and Ernesto Pantua III.

Already assured of seats in the Beijing Games are Miguel Molina, SEAG triple-gold winner Shiela JB Walsh and Ryan Arabejo. Mae Perez leads the divers in the "God willing, five more swim-Dec. 6-15 event along with Fil-Canadian twins Dhayna and mers and two to four divers should make it," Joseph said. Nicole Lemay Power over mediocrity. So on a power trip for as low as Pagk dom or 0% interest for 18 month

Girardi new Yankees manager; Torre to LA

Yankees picked experience over had the most managerial expepopularity, offering the manager's job to Joe Grardi at the risk of watching Don Mattingly walk turned down an offer to stay as away from the franchise.

Mattingly was the early favorite Little as manager of the Los Anto replace Joe Torre and openly coveted the spot. After finding out on Monday he didn't get it, Mattingly told the Yankees he had no interest in returning next year as bench coach or in any other coaching position.

"Don was extremely disappointed to learn today that he wasn't the organization's choice to fill the managerial vacancy," Mattingly's agent, Ray Schulte, said in an e-mail. "Instead, he was informed the organization offered the position to Joe Girardı."

NEW YORK-THE NEW YORK first base coach Tony Pena, who rience of the candidates.

Meanwhile, Torre, who manager of the Yankees two Beloved as team captain, weeks ago, will replace Grady geles Dodgers, several reports here early Tuesday sa.d.

> Reports say Mattingly could be hired on Torre's staff

That move would bring together Mattingly with his son Preston, a first round choice in the 2006 draft by the Dodgers

Girardi was the 2006 National League Manager of the Year with the Florida Marlins, plus he has a pinstriped pedigree. The hardnosed catcher played on three Yankees teams that won the World Series, served as their bench coach in 2005 and was a Girardi also beat out Yankees TV announcer this year. AP, AFP

ISF lauds softball meet

Federation (ISF) president Don Porter lauded the sport's congress held recently in the country.

"Definitely it was a successful Congress," Porter said. "A lot was accomplished in the three days we spent here with all the delegates coming from 83 countries from five regions in the world and the different commissions making significant contributions."

Porter even acknowledged the great hosting job by the Amateur Softball Association of the Philipset a new record in turnout

INTERNATIONAL SOFTBALL pines, headed by sportsman-businessman Jean Henri Lhaither

For lus part, Lhuilher expressed his own satisfaction at the conclusion of the event.

"It was a great honor for the Philippines to host the Congress and we take pride in the fact that our country has contributed in its own way in making the event a successfut one with a lot of posttive results for the sport of soft-

The XXIII ISF Congress actually

IN THIS ISSUE

Kepco eyes more RP power generation assets /B2

BSP sees 7% economic growth in 3rd quarter /B3

Website: www.inquirer.net/husiness

Editor Raul O. Marcelo · Assistant Editor Corrie S. Narisma

Text as year feedback: inquirer blz name/age/city/message to 2297 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

E-mail: business@inquirer.com.ph

IN TRUE DEEDS

SBMA: SC ruling doesn't cover Philip Morris project/B5

Biofuel sector draws P34B in investments

8 cities cited for being 'business friendly'

By Ronnel W. Domingo

THE NATIONAL COMPETITIVENESS COUNcil has cited eight cities across the nation for being "business friendly" based on the notfor-profit organization's scorecard.

NCC director Virgilio Fulgencio said the Institute for Solidarity in Asia (ISA), which is headed by former Finance Secretary Jesus Estanislao, has declared as model cities San Fernando in La Union, San Fernando in Pampanga, Marikina, Naga, Sorsogon, Calbayog, Iloilo and Tagbilaran.

Fulgencio said the cities were adjudged as a good place to live in, work in and do business with since the local governments were complying with ISA's public governance system and scorecard or PGS.

He explained that the PGS was patterned after the Harvard Business School's "balanced scorecard" appned on LGUs.

PGS measures the progress of a city made in various target areas, including competitive infrastructure, responsible citizenship, growth in the per capita gross domestic product and greater productivity.



BSP sees October inflation at 2.5-3%

By Doris C. Dumlao

THE BANGKO SENTRAL NG PILIP mas is bracing for an uptick in inflation in October due to pressures on the prices of food, fuel and utilities.

BSP Governor Amando Tetangco ed in September. Jr. yesterday said this month's inflation rate could peak at 3 percent to crease was "on account of some a low of 2.5 percent, with the higher end of the range exceeding the six-month high of 2.7 percent post

Tetangco said the projected inpressure from higher food prices, fuel prices and non-food prices."

Local, foreign firms to need 725,300 hectares

By Amy R. Remo

FIFTEEN COMPANIES ARE INterested in investing a combined P34.08 billion in planting crops for biofuel feedstock, the Department of Agriculture disclosed yesterday.

In a report to Agriculture Secretary Arthur C. Yap, the DA biofuels feedstock group led by Marriz Agbon said the proposed investments would involve the planting of biofuel feedstock like sugarcane, cas-

sava, jarropha, corn, oil palm and coconut. According to Agbon, the proposed deals would need about 725,300 hectares of land.

Agbon declined to name the 15 companies, saying the projects were still in vanous stages of negotiation.

However, he said the negotiations would involve the participation of local companies in partnership with foreign investors from Australia, Japan, the United States, China, the United Kingdom, Germany and India.

He explained that the investments would involve P19 18 billion on the agricultural side and P14.9 billion on the processing plants or infrastructure side

The investors are reportedly planning to set up processing plants in the Ilocos Region, Cagayan Valley, Western Visayas, Zamboanga Peninsula, Northern and Southern Mindanao and Davao either

BIOFUEL/84

。超級思生的紅龍 PESO-DOLLAR RATE PSE COMPOSITE INDEX

Shares close flat ahead of US rate decision

(See stock market report on Page B7)

SHARE PRICES CLOSED BARELY CHANGED yesterday with investors locking in early gains ahead of the US Federal Reserve's decision on interest rates, dealers said.

The composite index finished down 1 45 points at 3,783.43 after moving between 3,774 92 and 3.817.74 It was shut Monday for a public holiday

The broader all share index rose 6.35 points or 0.3 percent to 2,354 88 There were 68 gainers and 48 decimers,

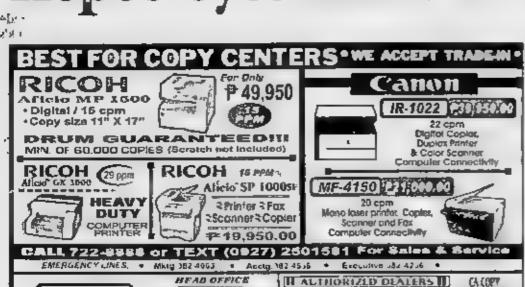
SHARES/86





BUSINESS

Kepco eyes more RP power generation assets



EQLOSTAR & COMPLIER SALES GOLESTAR OFFICE MACHINES AUTOMATION CONTORATION *ELITE* Door 2: Los Bldg., Culting Are. Cor.J.P. Laural St. Daves. City Fet (082) 2270321-25 Fez (082) 2270321 CEBU Especial Building. Gen. Starlion Are. Cebu City Tel. (032) 2336711 to 18 Fex. (032) 2336716 or 26 MACHINES, INC. AFICIOTECH (045) 887 4027 **∐** Bank? Makati **Galance Sheet** As of September 30, 2007 17(h Roor, One San Miguel Avenue, San Miguel Ave., Cor. Shaw Boulevard: Origan Center, Pleng City. (Head Office and Branches)

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Deposit Jabilities Bills Payable

Capital Stock TOTAL STOCKHOLDER'S EQUITY

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND STOCKOLDERS' EQUITY

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Circular No. 280, as applicable a. Total CAR b. Tier 1 CAR Republic of the Philippinus) Oty of Marata

We, PONCIANO S. CARREON, JR. and ANGELITA L. ESGUERRA of the above-mentioned bank, do solemely swear that all matters set forth in the above Balance Sheet are true and correct to the best of our knowledge and belief

STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY

-----PONCIANO S. CARREON, IS.

ANGELTA I ENGUERRA SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this 25th day of October at City of Manife effairst exhibiting to me their Community Tax Certificate No.14881375, issued at Makati City on February 10, 2007 and Community Tax Certificate No. 15109788, issued at Malatti City on

Dac No. . Book No. _

DANLOB BARANES NOTARY PUBLIC THE 38 BIL 689 IBP LIFE ROLL #413 /0-04-88 PTR WL503070674LA,0-02 0

By Abigail L Ho

SECUL, SOUTH KOREA-KOREA Electric Power Corp., through subsidiary Kepco Philippines Corp., is looking at acquiring existing power generation assets in the Philippines, in preparation for the expiration of its cooperation agreement for the 650-megawatt (MW) Malaya thermal power plant in Rizal

In a briefing here, Kepco Asia business department director general Kyong-Goo Hur said the company was keen on acquiring some of National Power Corp. assets that geothermal plants.

Kephilco's rehabilitate-operatemanage-maintain (ROMM) contract for the Malaya plant will end in 2010. Kephilco and joint venture part-

ner SPC Power Corp. will start the construction of a 200-MW coal-

Jürni Codyi

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(Head Office and Brunches as of Suptember 30, 2007)

December.

Hur said the joint venture was in talks with engineering, procurement and construction (EPC) contractors for the project.

The project will use clean coal technology, which limits the emission of harmful nitrogen exide and sulfur oxide to environment friendly levels.

It will be implemented by a special purpose company, Kepco SPC Power Corp., which will construct. commission, own, operate and manage the power plant.

A source earlier said the plant would be sold, particularly the would cost about \$300-\$320 milhon. It will be financed by a Citibank led consortium of banks.

> The start of the plant's construction, he said, was hinged on the Energy Regulatory Commission's approval of a power supply deal between Kephilco and Negros Occidental Elec-

fired power plant in Naga, Cebu, by tric Cooperative Inc. The applied rate for the Noceco contract was placed at

P4.30 per kilowatt-hour. Hur, however, said the plant would be built on a "merchant" basis, or as a power plant without an

attached supply contract. The source said the plant would take around 36 months to complete and commission.

Kepco's Philippine operations include Kephilco, which operates the 650-MW Malaya Thermal Power Plant in Rizal, and Kepco Ilijan Corp., which operates the 1,200-MW Ilijan Combined Cycle Power Plant in Batangas.

With its current portfolio, the Korean power giant accounts for around 15 percent of the country's installed generation capacity.

The Korean power firm's investments in the country comes up to about \$1 billion.

8 cities cited From page B1

The governments of the eight ment and zoning while the LGUs cities have partnered with ISA for a program called Dream Cities program, which requires the LGUs to map out a charter that states their visions for the next few years.

Examples are Marikina's goal of becoming Southeast Asia's model city in competitiveness; San Fernando (Pampanga) positioning to become a tourist destination, and Tagbilaran wanting to be a premier ecocultural tourism hub in Asia

There are 12 other cities nationwide that have joined ISA's program, including Tuguegarao, Dagupan, Tagaytay, Iri ga, Cebu, Dumaguete, Ligao, Panabo, Tacurong, Tangub, Toledo and Samal.

ISA's support include help in strategic planning for spurring business, infrastructure develop-securing supplies of electricity.

are required to involve the community in government affairs.

They have resources to do these projects," Pulgencio said. "They also need to create an Office of Strategy Management, which is responsible for the core plan within the city."

Formed last year to address perceptions that the country's attractiveness to investors was warning relative to neighboring countries, the NCC has formed six groups to put up action agendas and push ininatives focused on human resources; management expertise m specific public offices; financing to micro, small and medium enterprises; reduction of transaction costs and improved transaction flows; the upgrade of infrastructure, parocularly in transportation, and reduction of costs and

BSP says October ... Prompage B1

The BSP chief was expecting look. The BSP's overnight borprices of vegerables, milk, gasoline, diesel, kerosene, cement and water

"Nevertheless, we remain optimistic about the benign inflation outlook because of the peso appreciation and controlled monetary growth," Tetangco said. (See related story on Page 1)

The country's inflation rate has averaged at 2.6 percent in the first time months of the year, well below the government's official the lower end of the BSP's latest forecast of 2.6-3.1 percent.

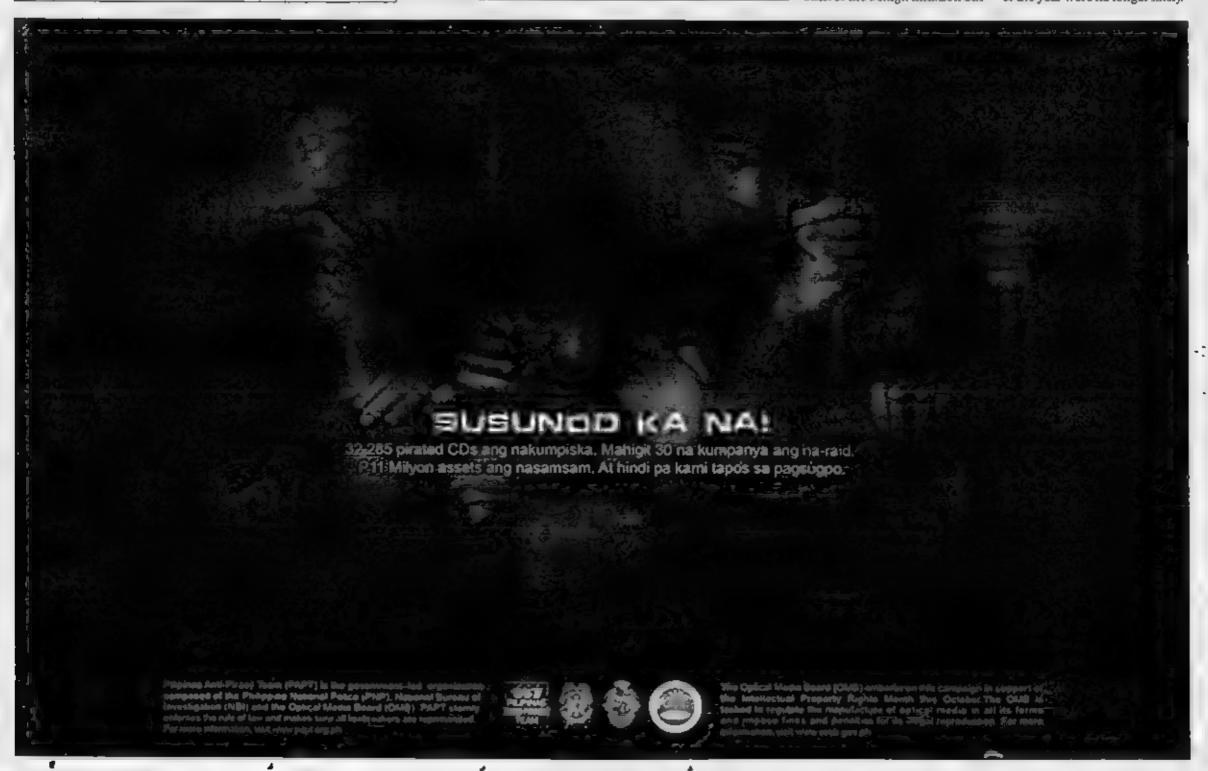
The BSP's policy-making Monetary Board slashed the benchmark interest rates by 25 basis points last Oct. 4 on the back of the benign inflation out-

an increase in the average rowing rate now stands at 5.75 percent and the overnight lending rate at 7.75 percent—the lowest levels in 15 years.

When it eased the overnight rates, the BSP also lowered the rates on the high-yielding special deposit accounts (SDAs), which now mop up double the amount siphoned off by the traditional overnight borrowings

Analysts said a reduction in the SDA rates would imply a somewhat more significant eastarget of 4-5 percent and still at ing of policy rates than the 25-basis point cut in the BSP rates since SDA yields were 38 basis points above the overnight rates.

Investment banking giant UBS, in a recent commentary, said interest rate cuts for the rest of the year were no longer likely.



BUSINESS

Metrobank raises tier 2 notes offering to P8B from P5B

By Doris C. Dumiao

METROPOLITAN BANK AND Trust Co., the country's biggest bank, has increased its tier 2 notes offering to P8.5 billion from the original target of P5 billion to take advantage of the warm investor reception to the offer.

brought in PI1 billion in orders. The issue is 2.2 times oversubscribed," said Metrobank executive vice president Fernand Antonio Tansingco in a statement.

The bank had the option to increase the offering of subordinated notes that should qualify

strong investor response that tal to P10 billion, the maximum 2 capital adequacy regulations.

Proceeds from the offering will be used to finance the redemption of \$125 million in subordinated notes due 2012, and to boost the bank's capital "We are very happy with the as tier 2 or supplementary capi- base, especially under new Basel selling agents and market mak-

The tier 2 notes were priced at 7 percent coupon and are maturing in 10 years, with a call option after five years. The is-

Chartered Bank were the joint lead arrangers, bookrunners,

ers for the issue.

Lower tier 2 capital is supplementary capital packaged as an interest bearing note with a limited tenor of at least five years. The ranking of these notes is ING Bank and Standard subordinated to the claims of de-

> Global credit watchdog Moody's Investor Service has

assigned an investment grade rating of Baa3 on Metrobank's

BSP sees 7% economic growth in 3rd quarter

Consumption, investments main drivers

THE PHILIPPINE ECONOMY LIKELY SUStained in the third quarter the robust growth seen in the first semester despite a slowdown in exports, the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas said yesterday.

The central bank expects the economy to post a 7-percent growth in the third quarter over a year ago

BSP Deputy Governor Diwa Guinigundo yesterday said consumption and investments, including public sector investments, were driving growth.

He said the country would have to watch out for the impact on exports of the economic slowdown in the US and other major global economies.

The global economy continued to grow in the second quarter but growth is widely expected to soften in the near term.

Guinigundo said the domestic economy could maintain the robust growth seen in the first semester, as the slowdown in exports could be matched by slower import

"Growth in consumption will be sustained because remittances remained strong," he said

"Investments inflow has been strong, particularly public sector investments which went up by more than 40 percent," he added.

The government has been able to beef up its infrastructure and social spending this year because of the fiscal space provided by lower-than-expected budget deficits.

The country's gross domestic product (GDP), which sums up all the goods and services produced in a given period, grew at its fastest pace in 20 years in the first semester. The second quarter GDP growth hit 7 5 percent following a revised 7.1-percent expansion in the first quarter.

"On the demand side, GDP growth was boosted by strong household spending, improving capital investments and robust government consumption," BSP Governor Amando Tetangco Jr. said in a statement.

He said other demand indicators-such as land and rental values, residential and office vacancy rates, sales of commercial vehicles and appliances, energy consumption as well as employment-showed improvements in the second quarter.

On the supply side, the key driver to growth in the first semester was services, accounting for more than half of the GDP

"GDP growth was broad-based as other production sectors contributed to the economic expansion, with industry output surging by 8 percent and agriculture expanding by 3.9 percent," Tetangco said. Doris C. Dumiao

UCPB remittance business up 14%

OVERSEAS REMITTANCES COURSED through United Coconut Planters Bank grew by 14 percent to \$1.01 billion in the first nine months of the year, from \$883 mullion a year ago.

In a statement, UCPB vice president for remittance marketing Victor Ruben Tuason said the growth would likely continue in the last quarter.

UCPB's share of remittances was growing in line with industry growth. Based on the latest available data from the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas, total OFW inflows from January to August reached \$9.3 billion, 15.3 percent higher than the level a year ago.

Tuason said remittances coursed through UCPB and its network of foreign correspondent banks and partners included those from OFWs and the nontrade remittances of overseas businesses, mainly foreign principals of local ship manning agencies and business process outsourcing firms. UCPB aims to capture a bigger slice of the growing foreign exchange remittance business and is eyeing the OFW market to drive future growth, Tuason said.

Early this year, the bank formed a dedicated remittance marketing division to focus on developing special products and services for OFWs and to provide them with more convenient remittance channels.

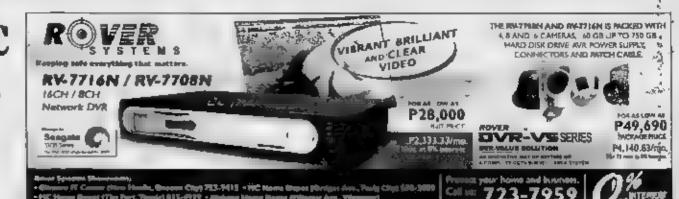
Tuason said the bank was also expanding its market reach by entering into alliances with foreign and domestic remittance service providers. Doris C. Dumiae

size approved by the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas' policymaking Monetary Board.

sue date was Oct. 19, 2007.

positors and senior creditors.

tier 2 notes offering. Moody's rating scale runs from a high of Aaa to a low of C, comprising 21 notches. The scale is divided into two sections-investment grade and speculative grade. The lowest investment grade rating is Baa8.





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BUSINESS

Explosion insurance

MAGUINDANAO ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC. (MAGEL CO-PALMA) Villerica, Midanyap, Gotabeto - 0 O o -

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The bidder with the most forstable offer of insulinent plant or lease to one shall be munded the contract:

E. PSUC resurves the right to record or inject any or all bids to accordance in the evising REA processment paticy.

MAGEL CO-PA_IRA MARKOSHIEM

(PDI - October 25, 31 8 Nov. 7, 2007)

Tired of going from building to building to distribute your resumes? building to distribute your resumes?



SINCE THE GLORIETTA EXPLOSION INCIdent, there has been a lot of talk, including in insurance circles, about the kinds of insurance policies that were probably in force.

First, let us talk about explosion. The insurance industry classifies explosions as either physical or chemical.

A physical explosion is caused by excessive air, gas or steam pressure.

A steam generator or water boiler can explode because of too much pressure resulting from the failure of the safety mechanism, or, the boiler tender falling asleep during his watch.

In a physical explosion, there is no ignition or even a spark.

A bomb explosion is the most common example of a chemical explosion.

A sufficient quantity of a flammable gas like methane contained in a large compartment can explode with disastrous results. At a light enough temperature, even dust, especially coal dust, explodes in an enclosed space.

According to the latest press reports, the police are reaching the conclusion that the

QUESTIONS OF POLICIES

Honesto C. General

explosion was due to a methane explosion-meaning, a chemical explosion.

The standard fire insurance policy does not cover explosion.

Explosion insurance is available either as an extension to the fire policy (at an additional premium, of course) or under special policies.

One such special policy is the boiler policy, specifically designed to cover industrial boilers, such as those found in steam-powered electric generating plants.

The boiler policy covers not only damage to the boiler and the surrounding property, but also bodily injury to third parties.

For an establishment like Glorietta, explosion insurance (or insurance against damage to property arising out of explosion) is

available under special clauses (at additional premiums, of course) that extend the coverage of the basic standard fire policy.

The most common of these clauses is the Extended Cover. The less common is the Broad Water Damage clause covering such incidents as bursting of pipes.

Glometta would also have a Comprehensive General Liability policy, which protects against legal liability to third parties arising out of bodily injury and property damage. For an establishment that is always full of people, the sums insured, or the limits of hability, under the policy would probably be substantial.

If Glorietta were held legally liable for the incident, everybody who got hurt, and the beneficianes of those who died, can file their claims under this policy.

Finally, there are two exclusions found under any policy whatsoever that we should discuss.

First, ever since Hiroshima, a nuclear explosion, which technically is a chemical explosion as I explained above, has been a standard exclusion in all policies.

The risk of nuclear explosion is just too great for any insurer to bear

Second, if the Glorietta incident were a terrorist attack, none of the existing policies would respond.

Except in very rare instances, no insurance policy covers terrorism nowadays.

ATS profit hits P481M

By Riza T. Olchondra

THE SALE OF THREE SUPERFERRY VESsels enabled Aboitiz Transport System Corp. (ATS) to post a net income of P480.8 million as of September this year, after incurring losses last year, the company said in a statement.

ATS suffered a net loss of P353 2 million in the first nine months of 2006.

Revenue-wise, ATS posted total consolidated revenues of P8.3 billion during the nine-month period, about the same as what it recorded in the same period last year

However, ATS has sold three vessels since last year, reflecting total gains of P622.7 million

The proceeds of the vessel sales were used to pay down P1.7 billion in debt

Consequently, finance costs dropped by 72 percent from P222.8 million to P63.5 million.

The company's freight revenues reached

P5 billion, the same level as last year, despite reduced capacity due to the sale of three vessels.

ATS said higher revenues generated by its international chartering business com-

pensated for the lost freight capacity.

Passage revenues dropped 11 percent versus the same period last year, mainly due to stiff competition from other shipping

companies and airlines
ATS said it was determined to drive up
passage demand by offering year-round

promotional rates.

Income from operations has improved considerably to P119.8 million from a loss of P274.9 million in 2006.

Similarly, earnings before interest and depreciation and amortization increased 39 percent from P723.9 million in 2006 to P1 billion in 2007

ATS attributed this to aggressive costsaving and efficiency-enhancing measures. Total costs and expenses were down 5 percent or P388.3 million to register at P8.2

billion as of September.

The Aboriz Group brought its first ship into service in 1907 and is celebrating its 100th year in the transport business this year.

Biofuel ... Frompage BI

through straight purchases, lease arrange-

ments, contract growing or joint ventures.

In all the arrangements, he said, farmers stood to earn more through profit sharing, guaranteed income packages or straight purchases of harvested crops, and benefit from new planting technologies that would create more jobs and boost production.

Last January, President Macapagal Arroyo signed into law RA 9367 or the Biofuels Act, which aims to "ease the country's addiction to imported and pollution-generating petroleum products."

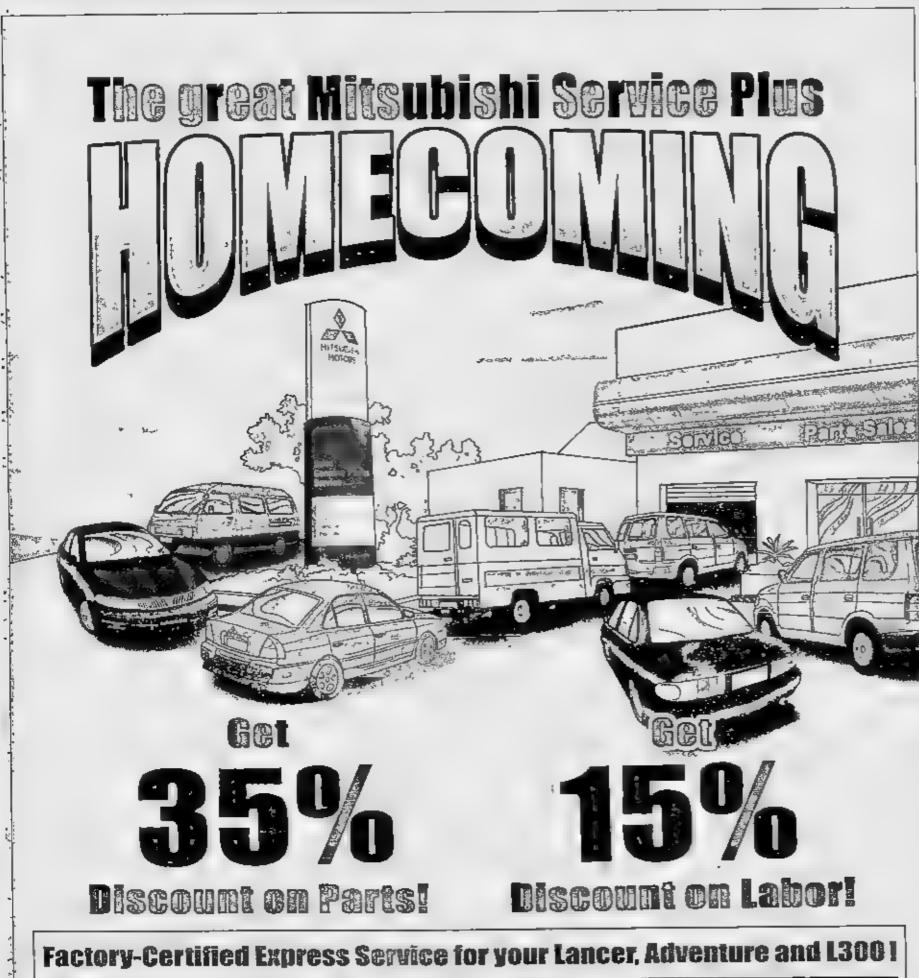
Yap earlier said that the growing global demand for crops-based alternative fuels would energize Philippine farms, increase farmers' income and reduce the country's dependence on imported energy sources.

According to a report by the Asian Institute of Petroleum Studies Inc., the reduction in fuel consumption as a result of the Biofuels Act would save the country P17.3 billion a year.

Yap added that the Biofuels Act would give an extra boost to the sugar and coconut industries, which employ some 56,000 sugarcane farmers and 3.5 million coconut farmers.

The coconut industry, for instance, is projected to generate coco diesel sales of about P3.5 billion a year.

Studies done by the Philippine Coconat Authority showed that with the local consumption of diesel pegged at 7 billion liters a year, the Philippines would need at least 70 million liters of coco biodiesel in compliance with the provisions of the Biofuels Act.



FREE ITS FOINT CHECK-UP

Promo period: October 1 - December 29, 2007.

1. Check instrument panel and steering colorer switch functions

3. Check Suid level and condition (braids, clutch, power stearing,

4. Check cooling sylam for holds, radiator hose for duringes and

5. Check fuel lines, hoses, and clarinos for legis and condition

? Check power steering hours for leaks and condition.

Constitution April

ATF, and contant)

lause connections

Check V-Bells for cracks and frays.

8 Check high tension wires for damages

9. Check clutch release cylinder for leafs; and condition

10. Check suspension system for looseness and damages

13. Chack brake hoses and pipes for leaks and condition

كنيبة فرود عنو والمتعارة

14. Check the pressure and condition

12. Check steering linkage for damages and loose connections.

15. Check bellary sints of boull stronge using electronic diagnostic

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SBMA: SC ruling doesn't cover Philip Morris project



ETUDY ON MICROFINANCE AMONG RURAL

BANKS Romulo Neri, current chair of the Commission on Higher Education, receives a copy of a doctoral dissertation on microfinance among rural banks from laime I. Romero, a doctoral graduate of the Polytechnic University of the Philippines. According to the paper, most respondents appreciate the values of corporate social responsibility and financial responsibility. Astrategic approach was proposed to institutionalize microfinance among rural banks.

\$20-M tobacco facility said to be used only for storage

By Rounel W. Domingo

SUBICAUTHORITIES SAID THAT THE Philip Morris International's \$20-million tobacco leaf warehouse project at the Preeport would not be covered by the Supreme Court decision, allowing the collection of sin taxes at the port.

In a statement, the Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority said the tax would not apply on PMI's facility since the structure would only be used to store tobacco leaf in Subic for use in its Batangas cigarette factory or for export to other PMI production facilities abroad.

Under Republic Act No. 9334, which increased the excise tax rates imposed on alcohol and tobecco products, the importation of these products-even if destined for duty- blow" to the free port regume in Subsc Bay Freeport Zone."

pheable taxes, duties and charges.

However, SBMA said the law also provided that tobacco products may be exempt from prepayment of excise tax "if the same are to be export ed, or used in the manufacture of other tobacco products on which the excise tax will eventually be paid."

Still, SBMA expressed its concern for some 30 Subje-registered compames engaged in the importation, warehousing and retailing of tobacco and alcohol products, saying these will be directly affected by the coilection of excise taxes.

The SBMA described the Supreme Court ruling-which voided an Olongapo City court's suspension of sin tax collection in Subic-as a "big

free shops—shall be subject to all ap- Subic, as well as to government efforts in developing Subic as an inf vestment center and a premier logistics hub in Southeast Asia.

SBMA Administrator Armand Arreza had said that, under RA 7227, or the Bases Conversion and Development Act of 1992, Subic-registered establishments were granted tax-exempt privileges for the goods they brought into the Freeport.

"If we were to slap excise taxes on the merchandise imported by Subic registered companies, it would be like changing the rules in the middle of the game," Arreza said. "If we would reverse our policy of giving tax-free benefits to investors in Philippine free ports, then we would risk losing entire industries in the

In Congress, bills filed to uphold IP rights

THE INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OFFICE IS pushing for a wish list of bills in Congress as American firms acknowledged the country's gains in protecting IP rights -a development that is seen to improve business confidence in the Philippines.

Adman S. Cristobal Jr., IP Philippines director general, said the agency was pushing for laws that would implement the provisions of the World Intellectual Property Office (WIPO) Internet Treaties, which the country acceded to in 2002.

Cristobal said in a statement that the treaties would create the foundation for a healthy expansion of e-commerce in member countries that ratify them, specifically in terms of generating more jobs, paving the way for more secure and diversified economies, and spurring social and cultural

"There are new proposals in Congress, such as House Bill No. 1033 or An Act Penalizing Mall and Store Owners Engaging in the Sale of Contraband Products, and House Bill No. 1409, or the Ann-Cable Television and Cable Internet Pilferage Act," he said. "These are expected to strengthen the country's IP nghts regime."

Also, the Optical Media Board-part of the National Committee on IP Rights, which the IPO heads—is drafting proposed amendments to the Optical Media Law of 2003 amid the proliferation of high-tech equipment that can replicate optical media.

Cristobal said he had met earlier this month with representatives of the US-Asean Business Council, who cited the country's gains in building a strong IPR regime.

Also, US-ABC president Matthew Daley said the council "attach(es) a great deal of importance to the work of IP Philippines."

"Countries with a strong regime on intellectual property have been able to attract upscale investors and investments," Daley said.

IP Philippines has reported that from Janpary to September, combined efforts of the NCIPR's enforcement agencies yielded an estimated value of P2.3 billion worth of seized counterfeit goods. Ronnel W. Domingo

Next Mobile to tap telcos for text messaging

By Riza T. Olchondra

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS technology firm Next Mobile Inc. is preparing for text messaging interconnection with Smart Communication, Globe Telecom, and Sun Cellular to expand its menu of offerings for the corporate market.

Next Mobile CEO Mel Velarde told reporters that the company has interconnected its voice services to Sun and Smart, and expects to interconnect with Globe as well.

"We just lack text messaging (interconnection)," he said. "We are working out interconnection with Smart and Globe within the fourth quarter."

Interconnection refers to the linkage of two or more telecommunications carriers with one another to enable subscribers of one operator to reach subscribers of the other carners. The linkage may be through wire, radio, satellite or other means.

Velarde said the company could grow its present subscriber base of 23,000 corporate accounts to about 143,000 by 2009.

The company began its foray into the international market with the launch of Myworld, a mobile phone service that offers unlimited calling, benefiting Filipinos working and living abroad and their relatives in the Philippines, local businesses with international partners, and foreign nationals of multinational companies.

The ruche telecom player is pouring in P600 million to roll out the handset-bundled services meant for corporate clients.

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Other Ca

Retained

Minority TOTALS

TOTAL L

BALANCE SHEET

(Head Office and Branches) As of September 30, 2007

ASSETS	
Cash and Cash Items	.+ 6,512,519,189.80
Due from Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas	67,470,228,415.90
Due from Other Banks	25,487,614,411.56
Due from Other Banks Financial Assets at Fakr Value through Profit or Loss	9,206,766,494,71
Available-Inr-Sale Financial Assets-Net	. 87,421,264,391,72
Beld-to-Maturity (HTM) Financial Assets-Het	3,995,694,321.12
Laquoted Bebt Securities Gassified as Loans-Net	11,240,338,873.41
Investments in Hun-Marketable Equity Security-Net	79,461,719.36
Loans and Receivables Net	
Interbank Loans Receivable	
Loans and Receivables - Others	
Loans and Receivables Arising from RA/CA/PR/SLB	7,700,000,000.00
Other Financial Assets	3,125,723,027 92
Other Financial Assets	Transfer sk
Ventures Net	. 25,800,990,069.65
Bank Premises, Furniture, Fixture and Equipment-Net	
Real and Other Properties Acquired-Net	22,768,174,743.67
Other Assets-Net	18,629,714,280.46
TOTAL ASSETS	
LIABILITIES	
Financial Liabilities at Fair Value through Profit or Loss	1,264,652,937 50
Deposit Labitities	456,737,202,812.53
Billis Payable	15,172,107,062 20
a) BSP (Rediscounting and Other Advances)	401,783,990.40
b) Interbank Loans Payable	_ 888,118,561.29
c) Others	13,882,264,510.51
Unsecured Subordinated Debt-Het	14,589,507,741.20
Due to Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas	154,847,127.30
Other Financial Liabilities	5,892,578,338.32
	15,369,856,855,34
Other Liabilities TOTAL LIABILITIES	CHO 100 752 074 26
STOCKHOLDERS' EOUTTY	
	40.443.005.555.44
Capital Stock	
Other Capital Accounts	
Retained Earnings	9,190,413,094.77

TOTAL LIABILITIES	389,180,732,874.39
STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY	
Capital Stock	40,842,996,655.44
Other Capital Accounts	12,236,490,869.18
Retained Earnings	9,196,413,094.77
TOTAL STUCKHOLDERS' EQUITY	62,275,900,619.39
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY	571.456.653.493.J8
CONTINGENT ACCOUNTS	
Guarantees Issued1	198,694,842.21
Financial Standby Letters of Credit	94,022,617.22
Performance Standby Letters of Credit	6,403,737,683 79
Commercial Letters of Credit	7,386,285,162.19
Trade Related Guarantees	409,222,464.56
Spot Foreign Exchange Contracts	7,295,368,728.13
Trust Department Accounts	145,689,652,928.05
a) Trust and Agency Accounts	116,655,964,799.59
b) Dait Investment Trust Fund (UTTF)	16,937,688,743.12
c) Other Trest and Fiduciary Accounts	12,095,999,385.34
Derivatives	125,513,875,749.46
Others	13,547,725,722 39
TOTAL CONTINGENT ACCOUNTS	306,538,585,898.10

b) Bait Investment Trust Fund (UTTF)		16,937,688,743.12
c) Other Trest and Elduciary Accounts		12,095,999,385,34
Derivatives		125,513,875,749.46
Others		13,547,725,722 39
TOTAL CONTINGENT ACCOUNTS	P	306,538,585,898.10
Additional informations		
Non-Performing Leans (NPLs) Resto of Non-Performing Leans to Tutal Lean Persiste (MPL to TLP)		15,388,593,379.53
		5.26
Classified Loans & Other Risk Assets		26,697,137.184.30
General provision for losses		2,243,060,053,09
Specific provision for loan losses		1,135,686,213.60
Between on Equaty (ROE)		12.24
DOSRI ligans and receivables		9,217,707,560.57
Ratio of COSRI fears and receivables to TLP		3.16
Compliance with Magna Carta:		
a. 6% for Small Enterprises		642
b. 2 % for Medium Enterprises		15.91
b. 2 % for Mexican Enterprises Capital Adequacy Ratio (CAR on Solo Basis) under Circular No. 538		
or Circular No. 200, as possible		
4 2		17.00

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)

CITY OF MAKATISS We, Arthur Ty and Ana Marie T. Ignacio of the above-mentioned Bank, do solemnly swear that all matters set (orth in the above Statement of Condition are true and correct to the best of our knowledge and beta-1

(Sgd.) AVA MARIET, IGNACIO® Vice President

(Sgd.) ARTHU

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me, this 23rd day of October, 2007 at Maket Oty, afflants exhibiting to me their Community Tax Certificate No. 17674696, issued at Makati City on January 30, 2007 and Community Tax Certificate No. *1693*719, issued at Manda City on March 16, 2007, respectively.

Doc.No. 377 Page No. 77 Book No. Series of 2007

(Sgd.) BUTH SALOME A.MAGPAYO **Hosary Public** Uncil December 31,2007 PTR No.4B14726, 01-12-07, Makadi Chy CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET (Bank and Financial Subsidiaries)

As of September 30, 2007

ASSETS	
Cash and Cash Items	7,367,877,170.49
Due from Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas	72,926,778,249.67
Oue from Other Banks	33,149,678,415.62
Financial Assets at Fair Value through Profit or Loss	12,552,990,230.73
Avadable for Safe Financia: Assets-Net	104.836,924.695.26
Held-to-Maturity (HTM) Financial Assets-Net	9,786,586,898.89
Juquoted Debt Securities Classified as Loans-Net	15,504,048,851,24
Investments in Non-Marketable Equity Security-Net	419,757,050.24
Loans and Receivables Net	335,074,768,841.54
Interbank Loans Receivable	59.201,093,549.09
Loans and Receivables Others	267 973,675,292 45
Loans and Receivables Arising from RA/CA/PR/SLB	7,900,000,000.00
Other Financial Assets	3,420,237,206.70
Equity Investment in Subsidiaries, Associates and Joint	
Ventures Het	12,303,374,322 75
Bank Premises, Familiare, Fixture and Equipment-Net	11,495,108,120.82
Real and Other Properties Acquired-Net	24,893,979,954.26
Non-Current Assets Held for Sale	408,954,539.12
Other Assets - Net	20.811,733,745.73
TOTAL ASSETS	664,952,798,293.06
LIABILITIES	
Anancial Liabilities at Fair Value thatuch Profit or Loss.	1 264 652 937 50

TOTAL ASSETS	664,952,798,293.06
LIABILITIES	
Financial Liabilities at Fair Value through Profit or Loss	1,264,652,937.50
Deposit Liabilities	504,727,901,894.89
Balls Payable	51,372,163,509.70
a) BSP (Rediscounting and Other Advances)	401,783,990.40
b) Interbank Loans Payable	1,888,178,561,29
c) Other Deposit Substitute	25,100,835,012.55
d) Others	23,981,425,945.46
Bonds Payable Net	150,000,000.00
Unsecured Subordinated Debt Het.	16,557,160,727 98
Due to Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas	173,105,566.60
Other Financial Liabilities	6,148,873,653.13
Other Liabilities	19,792,665,175,45
TOTAL LIABILITIES	600.186,523,465,25
STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY	
Capital Stock	40,842,996.655.44

SIUL	KMOLDERS EQUIT I		
itodt .	#		40,842,996.655.44
pital Accounts			12,062,890,869 18
Élamings			9,196,413,094.77
Interest in Subsidiaries		_	2,663,974,208.42
TOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY	Tage page Ministra	Life.	64,766,274,827.81
MABILITIES AND STOCKHOU	DERS' EQUITY	ा#ि	664,952,798,293.06
CONT	INCENT ACCOUNTS	-	

198,694,842,21 Guarantees .ssued Financial Standby Letters of Credit 94,643,833.22 6,403,737,683.79 Performance Standby Letters of Credit Commercial Letters of Credit -7,437,019,337,66 421,176,318.11 Trade Related Guarantees ... 7,295,368,728.13 Spot Foreign Exchange Contracts ... 157,638,958,393.01 Trust Department Accounts a) Trust and Agency Accounts. 116,655,964,799.59 b) Unit Investment Trust Fund (UITF) 16,937,688,743.12 24,045,304,848.30 c) Other Trust and Feduciary Accounts 125,513,875,749 46 Demiatives. 13,650,701,519.26

1 List of Bank's Extended Subsidiaries. p. ORIX Metro Leasing and Pipance Corporation a. First Metro International Investment Co., Ltd. - Hong Kong Solid Philippanes Venture Capital Corporation It. First Meteo lovestowest Corporation 1. MBTC Reminance Grobit - Vienna (Tormerly MBTC c. Philippine Savings Rach d. MB1C Venture Capital Corporation Exchange Service GmbH Vienna) e Metropolitan Bank (Bahamas) Ltd. m Metro Remidtance (UK) Ltd n, Metro Remittance Singapore PTE 116. E. Mescoback Card Corporation (Fermerly Verbancard Corporation) g. MB Remetiance-Centre, Ltd. - Horry Kung a, Alleiro Remutance Center, S.A. Spala in Metro Remotance Censer, Inc., NY Connerty Asia Money Link. p. Philipancor Venture Capital Corporation g, Metro Remissance Center (Caldonna), Inc.

c. Metro Remitrabre (Italia) S.p.A. 2. Cagutal Adequacy Ratio (CAR on Consolidated Bash) under Cacutar No. 538

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES CITY OF MAKATI)S.5 We, Arthur Ty and Ava Marie F Ignacio of the above-mentioned Bank, do solemnly swear that all matters set forth in the above Statement of Condition are true and correct to the best of our knowledge and bekef

(Sgd.) AVA MARIET IGNACIO® Vice President

TOTAL CONTINGENT ACCOUNTS

(Sgd.) ARTHURTY President

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me, this 23rd day of October, 2007 at Makati City, affants exhibiting to ppe their Community Tax Cerudicate No. 17674696, Issued at Makan City on January 30, 2007 and Comm nity Tax Certificate No. *1693 719, issued at Makati City on March 16, 2007 respectively.

Ooc. No. 376 Page No. 77 Book No. Series of 2007

(SgrL) SUTH SALOME A. MAGPAYO **Notary Public** Until December 31,2007 PTR No.0314726,03-12-07, Maketi City

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GLOBE TELECOM CHARGES FULL SPEED loadings anytime. ahead on its mission to provide services that are easy-to-use and are relevant to consumers with another unnovation in communications-the SME Business Loop Package (B-Loop), a service that offers discounted rates within a calling circle, complemented by a loading facility for the prepaid lines within its "loop"

B Loop allows discounted calls within a loop. These are calls made between Globe postpaid to Globe postpaid, Globe postpaid to Globe prepaid and vise versa, and Globe postpaid or prepaid to a Globelines. There should be a minimum of 10 prepaid lines within a loop to avail of the standard B-loop rates that can be as low as P3.50 per

To maximize the value for money of companies, Globe also offers Autoload MAX Corporate Editor (Amax CE) to complement B-Loop. Top-ups for the prepaid lines in the SME B-loop must be reloaded via Amax CE

allows companies to easily and securely load their prepard lines individually or in bulk, track load spending, schedule automatic monthly loading, and view online

With its easy-to-use interface, Amax CE gives companies complete control over managing their prepaid credits. Globe's Amax CE online tools can track usage by department, by location, even down to individual employees. Transactions are immediately reflected and chosen indicators are constantly updated.

Companies can start reaping the benefits of SME B-Loop for a minimum initial load of P2,500 on Amax CE. Once enrolled in the program, companies need to top-up at least P2,500 a month for the entire company wallet. Plan range starts at a minimum monthly Amar CE top-up load of P250 per

The companies are not the only benefictaries of the Amax GE service. Individual employees also benefit from the Amax CE because it eliminates the tedious process of individual reloads and reimbursement of prepaid cards.

The top-ups may be handled either by The Amax CE is a web-based service that Globe or by the company availing of the

For more information on the SME Business Loop, call hodine 730-1288 or e-mail sme@globetel.com.ph.

Fass Inteli offers caregiver program

ASHTON COLLEGE, A PRESTIGIOUS school in Canada, has authorized a private school in the Philippines to offer exclusively its six-month caregiving academic programs that will provide Canadian knowhow and information to those seeking a chance to work in Canada.

The agreement between Ashton College and Fass Inteli College, which is based in Cubao, Quezon City, allows Pass Inteli to provide healthcare programs that are also accredited by the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority or Tesda, according to Fass Intell president Ariston Aden.

The completion of the Caregiver NC-2+ (Meeting Canadian Qualification) meets both Philippine and Ashton College academic requirements and bestows the graduate with a diploma in Care Giving from Fass. The diploma also bears Ashton College's logo stating that Fass is its duly approved study center in the Philippines,

Adan said the school already has its first batch of students under the program and eprollment for the second batch is currently ongoing. The program is the only one of its kind accredited by Tesda in the country.

The courses are very affordable, while visa processing and placement assistance are also offered for a separate fee, he

"The good thing is, each class is composed of only 20 students, so that our professors can give our students the best focus possible. And because of the small size of each class, Pass Inteli is able to adopt a continuing enrollment scheme for the course," Adan said

There are still slots left for the next class that will start this October, but spillover applicants will be immediately constituted into another class of 20 so they will not have to wait long to start the course, Adan

To qualify for the caregiver program, applicants must be 21 to 45 years old, must have completed at least 72 units in college, and must pass an English proficiency exammation given by Ashton College online through Fass Inteli. The examination is free

More details about the program and schedules of classes are available at Fass Inteh at 911-8050, 439-7878 and 912-5325 (telefax) or at www.fass-inteli.com.



'REDISCOVER BAGUIO' DRIVE LAUNCH

The Baguio Conventions and Visitors Bureau (BCVB), through Manila North Follways Corp's (MNTC) 'Rediscover the North' program, recently launched a campaign to lure tourists back to Bagulo City High-ighting the launch is the unveilutg of a 24-page Bagulo City Trave: Map and Guide (inset) it features a detailed map of the country's summer capital, and dozens of popular and new tourist destinations like the Burnham Park and Kennon Road. Showing their support to the campaign are Benguet 1st District Rep. Mauricio Do-

mogan (4th from right), Baguio City Mayor Reinaldo Bautista (not shown), Bagulo Councilor Richard Carlifo (4th from left), MNTC VP for marketing Renato Ticzon (left), BCVB executive director Amboy Guevarra Jr (3rd from left), MNTC senior marketing manager Grace Ayento (2nd from right), DOT-CAR regional director Pura Molintas (right), The Manor general manager Heiner Mau/becker (2nd from left), and Panagbenga Baguio Flower Festival Foundation president lawyer Damaso Bangaoet (3rd from right)

Cityland completes project early

THE PACIFIC REGENCY UNIT OWNERS have a reason to celebrate an early Christ-

: Cityland, twice awarded as the country's leading condominium developer of the year by the Housing and Land Use Regulatory Board (HLURB), recently announced that units at the 39-story building will be turned over starting October this year, eight months earlier than its estimated date of completion, June 2008 This is the company's second project this year to be turned over ahead of schedule.

The early turnover is due to Cityland's fervent commutment to deliver its promise, coupled with 27 years of expertise in the business and time-tested strategies in condominium development. The advance completion means early return of investment for investors and convenience for homeowners.

the Cityland Vito Cruz Towers 1 and 2, are easily occupied where a long list of interested lessees await. Parents can now avoid the hassle of looking for an accessiing in nearby schools.

Investors may now lease out their units a little less than a year ahead providing them with unexpected eight-month additional income. Unit owners currently renting units can now move in, saving them several months' worth of lease

Strategically located along Pablo Ocampo Sr Avenue, The Pacific Regency is just a walk away from De La Salle University, College of St. Benilde, St. Scholastica, SM, Harrison Plaza, hotels, banks and several other commercial establishments. The building is 99-percent sold and is an ideal residence, office and business place.

Cityland is currently developing two other Manila projects-The Manila Residences along Taft Avenue and Manila Executive Regency along Jorge Bocobo, Malate. Both projects are in full swing. The Residences will be completed by Buildings within the same vicinity, like March 2011, and The Regency by Decem-

For more details and queries, interested buyers may call 812-2222 (Makati); 687-3333 (Ortigas); 567-3333 (Vito Cruz); bly secure place for their children study- 242-1212 (Manila). Or log on to www.cityland.net.

BUSINESS WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2007 TKC Steel Gold nears \$800, oil at record \$92

PHISTPPINE DAILY INCUIRER-

share offer gets PSE nod

PHILIPPINE Exchange Stock (PSE) has approved the application of local steel producer TKC Steel Corp. to sell up to 235 milhon additional common shares worth P2.7 billion, the company quoted an advise from the stock exchange's legal counsel as say-

TKC earlier said it would offer the additional shares at between PB and P11.50 each.

Documents filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) showed that the offer period was set from Nov. 9 to 15.

The follow-on offering will churn out gross proceeds of between P1.88 billion and P2.7 bil-

TKC has appointed First Metro Investment Corp. as financial adviser, issue manager and lead underwriter for this offering. Elizabeth Sanches-LacI AM WRITING THIS ARTICLE IN REHAB, not with Britney Spears or Lindsay Lohan as I don't take drugs or drink. I am here because I injured my spine and can hardly move. Most of the people here are athletic types who injured their backs playing basketball, one from skydiving and one from bungee-jumping. Believe it or not, I did

mine playing no-limit Poker. There were eight of us and as we don't play for real money, we decided to play for dollars. Everybody had good hands and were raising and re-raising. One had an acehigh full house, another, four of a kind, another, a straight but I had the best hand possible, a royal flush. Flush with success, I reached over to grab all the money on the table, I felt an agonizing pain in my left side.

I went into a room, which bore a sign, THE RAPIST I was shocked until someone explained that it read THERAPIST, I was immersed in a bath of hot cola, which reheved the pain slightly and fizzed like crazy. I suppose that is how it became known as fizzyotherapy. The masseur then put a boiling hot compress on me and plugged it into the electricity. Unfortunately, instead of plugging it into the AVR, he plugged it into the mains, so I received 22,000 volts.

Then came the ultrasonic waves, which tingle, and are turned up until you scream for mercy. Lastly, comes the traction machine. I was strapped down at my chest, stomach and thighs, and the machine was supposed to be set at one-quarter of my body weight. By mistake, it was set at 4 times, so it kept pulling and pulling until now, I am 6 foot 2 inches and look like Dennis Rodman. For some reason, the patient always falls in love with the machine operator. I think it is the law of a traction.

Last week, stocks plunged after a blast in Giorietta killed 11 people and injured many more. Bomb investigators said they found traces of C4, a powerful explosive, but the government said that this was a reference to a road that is being built to join the C5, and it was due to a faulty gas tank of

CURRENGIES

October 38, 2007		Euro	Dellar	Pesa
Country	Unit	Equivalent	Equivalent	Equivalent
United States	Dollar	0.693241	1 000000	44 0450
Japan	Yen	0.006046	0.008721	0.3841
United Kingdons	Pound	1.430295	2 063200	90 8736
Hong Kong_	Dollar	0.089436_	0.129012	5.6823
Switzerland	Franc	0.595363	0.858811	37.8263
description of the last of the	Dollar	0.727506	1 049428	46 2221
Singapore	Dollar	0.477242	0 688421	30 3215
1.58	Dortar	0.639050	0.921829	40.6020
Bahrain	Dinar*	1 840299	2.654632	116.9233
Saudi Arabia	Rial	0.185483	0.267559	11 7846
Srumer	Dollar	0 475604	0 686059	30 2175
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UAE	Dirham	0 188797	0.272339	11 9952
EU	Euro	1 000000	1 442500	63.5349
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China	Yuan**	0.092747	0 133788	5.8927
Denmark	Kroner	0.134172	0 193543	8.5246
India	Rupee	0.017631	0 025432	1 1202
Malaysia	Ringgit	0.207806	0 299760	13.2029
New Zealand	Dollar	0 532975	0.768817	33 8625
Sweden	Kroner	0.108575	0.156620	6.8983
Taiwan	Nt Opliar	0.021397	0.030865	1,3594

turces Resident' force choing prices as of NY com-Oct. 21, 2007

** Julius than choing case as of Oct. 29, 3867 our basies to Balwain as quessed in Research Screen.



Republic of the Philippines LAND TRANSPORTATION OFFICE Regional Office No. III

City of San Fernando, Pempenge

levitation to Apply for Eligibility and to Bid Rehabilitation of LTD-Region III Mater Vehicle Inspection Station Renovation and improvement of MVIS building

the LAND TRANSPORPATION OFFICE. REGION III, through the SSARO NO. LPD-151-12-2007-004 dated James y 72, 2007 Forgit \$1-484/UC, intends to apply the same of Midon Eight Number 2007 April December 1 James y 72, 2007 Forgit \$15-484/UC, intends to apply the same of Midon Eight Number 2007 Intended Food Hintsteel Two Pesos and \$17700 Only \$271.202, 402.91) James the Approved Bodget for Contago (MSC) to paychesis under the contract limite Resonation and Improveneed of Motor Vetercle Inspecting Station (MSC) to building of U.O. Region it; Birls reconsist in motors of the ASC shall be advantagely rejected at Birl opinising The Lunch TRAKSPORTATION OFFICE: RECOON It new calls for the solonession of Letters of Interéd. (LOIs) tempotential Budders to apply for objectly for the Recoverion and Improvement of IAVIS Building Bidders should possess a valid PCAB ligative applicable to the advise type and case of the contract, have completed a sinter contract with a value of a reaso liky person 150% of the ABC, and meet the other material deploting requirements stated in the 1250s, by Decisioness Interested Bidders materialized. These Observation 6-500 person for Conference Reson. 1-3. Program M. Concernment Denter Materials, City of San Fernandis Peoplogues and secure the Supplify Documents Interferent Applications for dispatchy with the evaluated on a "passation" lunch. The test day for the submission of the accomplished "highlity Documents shall be on November 97-2007-5-00 person Conference Reson 1, O Person III Concernment Centure Manness. City of San Fernandis Peopletic San Fernandis Peopletic Documents shall be on November 97-2007-5-00 person Conference Reson 1, O Person III Concernment Centure Manness. City of San Fernandis Peopletic Documents.

Bishing will be candidated through open competitive hidding procedures as specified to the implementing Roles and Ringstatutes Plan A (ROR-A) of Reputate Ant 81M (RLA, 91849), otherwise famous as the "Constructor Procedures States (Roles Apt)" and is restricted, orders obtained at long-statement sets according when the IRR-A of RLA (RLA 5184) controlled the IRR-A of RLA 5184 conty Bids from stepcie Biodes will be opened in accordance with the IRR-A of RLA 5184 conty Bids from stepcie Biodes will be opened in accordance with the IRR-A of RLA. 9164 a corract will project awarded to the Lowest Coloured and Responsive Broken who was determined as such during post-qualification

Intercence Studies shall subset their accomplished Elightify Decembers to the BAC Septement at "30-Region III, Edwarmment Center, Manager, City of San Fernando, Pampanga on Naveotier 87, 2007 Interested eligible Bidders may obtain further administration Iron LAND TRANSPORTATION OFFICE REGION at and inspect the Britising Ocicaments at the address given before from 8.00 AM to 5.00 PM on Movisition 12.

A complete set of Briding Documents may be purchased by Bridlers that passed the eligibity check upon the presentation of the Notice of Eleganty to the BAC Secretarias, at the address below and upon payment of a mon-returnistic fee of Ten Thousand Pesos Only (P10 009 00). The Bubbles Decuments shall be received personally by the bidder or his authorized representative on November 12, 2007.

The LAND TRANSPORTATION OF FICE REGION III and told a Pre-Bid Conference open to all Engine Bidders un November 13, 2007, 2,00 paratitie Conference Rossa, 130-Rogum III, Government Contac, Massips, City of San Fernando, Pareproces

Empire Picklers coust section their this at the artifects below on or below 250 art of Movember 26, 2007. Af

Buds maps, he accompanied by a Bud security in any of the following form:				
Form of Saturday	Afficiance Assigned in % of Approved:			
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or an expansion amount in a family convenide correspond Line Bids shall not be accepted. But opening shall be use Horesiner 26, 2007. 2:00 pm. Bids will be opened in the presence of the Salders' representatives who change in amount at the address below on Movember 26, 2007. 2:06 pm.

Completion of the Works is required within one branched eighty five (185) calendar days after the estimate of

The LAND TRANSPORTATION OFFICE. RECION ill reserves the right is accept or right any Bid, to annul the tudding process, and for reject all Bids at any time prior to contract award, without thomby tecumogramy tubbley to the affected Biglier or Subters.

Jesses Ma. V. Yimig. Fisst. Gregorial Director Conversament Context. Managas, City of San Farentillo, Pumpunga. Not. 4 (1995) 987-1538 Fiss. v (1995) 983-5467

(Spil) JESUS MA, Y VITUR

MR. BEARBULL



methane. The truth will never be known but a man was seen carrying chemicals into ALI. He has been identified as Chemical Ali and if you see him hanging around, notify the nearest police station.

The US market has been totally chaotic and therefore unpredictable. One night, I went to bed and the DOW was off 200 points. Next morning, to my astonishment, it closed flat. The same thing happened the next night when a fall of 150 points was suddenly reversed because of good results from Apple or Google.

Then the DOW crashed 367 points and the Hang Seng 744 points because of bad earnings reports from banks linked to the subprime mortgage crists. Thereafter, it rose steadily on news that housing sales were at their lowest since 1999, there was a glut of unsold homes exceeding one million and prices were expected to fall next by up to 10 percent. In California, the number of homes is being reduced by Bush fires.

The American public doesn't really care if a million people lose their homes because of excessive or adjustable mortgage rates. All they are concerned about is whether Bernanke will cut interest rates on Oct. 30. The futures market predicts an 86-percent chance of a 25-basis point cut and a 14-percent chance of a 50-point basis cut. Nobody expects interest rates to remain unchanged but if they are, Wall Street will plummet. In all countries outside the US, men between 18 and 35 spend 60 percent of their spare time thinking about sex. In America, the average male spends 2 percent of his time thinking about sex, 6 percent about the Red Sox and 92 percent about interest rates.

Another reduction will weaken the dollar even further, it is already at an all-time low against the euro. Jim Rogers is selling all his dollar assets and switching into the yuan, which he predicts will triple or quadruple over the next decade. I agree with his thinking but not with his figures. Other major financial gurus are abandoning the dollar and switching into soft and hard commodines, euros and Swiss francs. It will not be long before Hong Kong maids insist on being paid in Hong Kong dollars.

In China, the economy just keeps growing with third quarter GDP growth at 11.2 percent. Inflation is 6.2 percent, twice the central bank's 3-percent target, and industrial production surged 18 9 percent. The central bank has already raised rates five times this year and might do so again in the near future. President Jintao is trying to prevent boom turning into bust as a swelling trade surplus, up 69 percent, fuels stock prices, inflation and factory spending.

Premier Jiaban said the government would restrict land use and new projects, curb bank lending and target excessive gains in inflation and house prices. An economist at Morgan Stanley said, "We expect the yuan to appreciate more quickly over the next three months as part of measures to cool the economy." Although overshadowed by China, India with its population of 1.2 billion is growing at 10 percent.

Over the next 20 years, these two countries will grow in importance at the expense of the US and other first world countries. Eventually, China will overtake the US as the world's largest economy and it has just overtaken Germany, moving into third place behind the US and Japan. Greenspan is bullish about China, the UK and some third world countries but he is bearish about Russia and some other countries.

In Asian currencies, the Singapore dollar hit a new high and the ringgit rose to a seven-year high. The rupee has risen by 12 percent this year, just beating the peso, now close to 44. The strong Asian currencies are already affecting exports and the IMF has predicted that Singapore's growth rate will fall from 7.5 percent to 5.8 percent next year. Weaker expansion is also seen in the Philippines, Malaysia, Taiwan and South Korea.

Fifteen years ago, China only made 20-30 percent of the components needed to assemble products; that has now climbed to 80-90 percent, so China can afford to reduce exports and concentrate on manufacturing capital goods previously brought from abroad.

As there will be only two days when the stock exchange will be open this week, i will probably skip writing, as there will be little to write about. Hopefully, like my phone, I will be mobile by then.

Shares ... From page B1

while 54 stocks were steady.

Volume amounted to 4.2 billion shares

valued at P5.4 billion. The US central bank will meet Tuesday and Wednesday and is widely expected to

trim the federal funds rate by at least 25 basis points to contain the fallout from the troubled US housing sector. It slashed the key rate by 50 basis points last month. But local investors will be unable

to react to the Fed's decision immediately because Philippine markets will be closed again for public holidays on Thursday and Friday. PLDT fell P55 to P3,015, extending its decline to a third consecutive session after

rallying early this month to record highs. PLDT rival Globe Telecom also extended

its pullback from record levels, ending down P5 at P1,715.

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(As of October 30, 2007)

Empire East signs deal with Edsa lot owner

By Elizabeth Sanchez-Lacson

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EMPIRE EAST LAND Holdings Inc., a 46percent controlled firm of Megaworld Corp., has signed an agreement with the landowner of a 13,359-square meter property along Edsa corner Pasong Tamo Extension in Makati for a high-rise condo-

The property is mer MC Home Denot across from the Metro Rail Transit Magallanes station.

Empire East said it has entered into an agreement with Asia Pacific Consolidated Land Holdings Inc., the landowner, for the joint development of the lot into a highrise, mixed-use condominium project.

Details of the pronalized, a company source privy to the project said.

Asia Pacific will contribute the land a preemptive rights

banking businesses.

od under review.

AEV 9-month

profit jumps 63%

ABOITIZ EQUITY VENTURES INC. (AEV)

reported yesterday that its net income for

the first nine months grew 63 percent to

P3.9 billion from P2.4 billion in the same

period last year, boosted by its power and

in a disclosure to the stock exchange,

AEV said earnings per share improved to 59

centavos from 49 centavos during the peri-

AEV said it booked a gain of P4.8 billion

Last May 10, Union Bank offered addi-

tional shares under what is called a follow-

on offering consisting of 90 million com-

mon shares at an offer price of P59 a share.

Last July 16, Abortiz Power listed its 1.79

million shares at P5.80 each on the Philip-

pine Stock Exchange. AEV said it recog-

nized the gains on disution directly under

equity instead of recording it as part of the

AEV said the contribution from the pow-

er group grew by 11 percent year on year to

P2 billion from P1.8 billion on the back of a

25-percent revenue growth recorded for

the period, where distribution and genera-

tion accounted for 78 percent and 21 per-

The power distribution business con-

tributed net earnings of P957 million to

AEV, a 4-percent improvement from last

The financial services group contributed

net earnings of P963 million in the first

nine months, also up 34 percent. This was

be attributed to the strong showing of both

Elwabeth Sanches-Lacson

Umon Bank and City Savings Bank.

consolidated net income.

cent, respectively.

year's P925 million.

from the sale of shares in Union Bank of the

Philippines and Aboitiz Power Corp.

will take care of constructing the project.

Empire East earlier secured the nod of stockholders to expand its capital to P23.5 billion from P10.5 billion to pave the way for a fundraising through a stock rights offer.

In an earlier disclosure to the stock exchange, Empire East said its expandlocated on the for- ed capital would consist of 21.5 billion common shares and 2 billion preferred shares.

> Preferred shares have no voting rights but get first crack at a portion of the company's earnings (dividends) distributed to shareholders.

Empire East Land vice president for finance Evelyn Cacho wrote in the compaject have yet to be fl- ny's disclosure that the subscribed portion of the increase in capital would be funded by proceeds of

while Empire East offer to be undertaken by the company.

> Proceeds of the rights offer would be used to accelerate the development and construction of the company's projects, retire debts and finance the acquisition of properties for development.

> Under the preemptive rights issue, Empire East will offer one new share for every three existing common shares.

INQUIRER SOUTCES had said the compamy could raise fresh funds of about P2.7 billion from its stock

to spend some P8

rights offer. Empire East plans

five years mostly to build condominiums catering to the middle-income earners.



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NOTICE OF FILING OF APPLICATION/S FOR ALIEN EMPLOYMENT PERMIT/S (AEP/S)

Notice is hereby given that the following companies/employers have filed

with this Regional Office application/s for Allen Employment Permit/s.			
Name and address of No. No. No.	ome of Foreign ional/Chizanskip	* Position	
JASMAALAKSHMI LENDING & TRADING CORP U-112-3A Balagtas Villas, Balagtas SL, Pasay Chy	Balti Singh Indian	Assistant Manager	
PHILROMARIAN TRADING INC. 2502 Atlanta Centre, 31 Annapolis St., Greenhills, San Juan City	Mihai Pistalu Romanian	Executive IIIII. Consultant	
VERIZON COMMUNICATIONS PRILIPPINES, INC. 17/F Tower 2, The Enterprise Center 8786 Ayata Are., Makati City	Oouglas Jay Saks American	Analyst-installation and Maintenance	
JAMAALAKSHNI LENDING & TRADING CORP U-112-3A Balagtas Villes, Balagtas SL, Pasey City	Satnam Skigh Indian	Branch Manager	
CHEYODA PHILIPPINES CORPORATION Meraico Ave. cor Ges. Araneta St., Pasig City	Keriji Hota Japanese	President	
SYSTRA PHILIPPINES BRANCH MF MRT 3 Depot, EDSA cor North Ave., North Triangle, Quezon City	Pascai Michel Alfred Marcel Anger Franch	Project Consultant Director	
SYSTRA PHILIPPINES BRANCH M/F MRT 3 Depot, EDSA cor Morth Ave., North Triangle, Quezon City	Pascat Rene Francis Peliacoeur French	Authorized Representative and Project Manager	
MATIONAL PER PHILIPPIRES LLC 42IF Yuchengoo Tower, RCBC Plaza 6819 Ayals Ava., Makail Chy	Martin James Shearsmith British	Director	
SIKH LENDING & TRADING CO. ETD. 2276 Buencamino St. Makati Chy	Gurdip Single Indian	Sales Representative	
JETTHOL MOTOR SALES 133 D. Aquito per 8th Ave., Caloocan City	Abid Chou Chinese	General Manager	
SEUNG EUN TOUR CORP. Pacific Rambow Suites Hotel, 1766 Advatico St. Maiste, Manifa	Seung Min Hong Korean	General Manager	
ONSUNG TRAVEL & TOURS AGENCY, INC. Unit 13-8137 Plaza J. Escriva Orivo. Origas Center, Pasig City	Sang Gyu Lee Korean	Asst. Supervisor to Operations	
WEPHORE ONLINE, RIC. Just A, 21/F Strata 2000 Bldg. Ortigas Center, Pasig City	Hye Won Jang Korean	Customer Service Manager	
HUAWEI TECHNOLOGIES PHILIPPINES INC. 53/F PBCom Tower, 6795 Ayeta Ave., Matati City	Ming He Chinese	Account Manager	
JAMMARLAKSHMB LENDING & TRADING CORP. U-112-JA Balagias Vilas, Balagias SL. Pasay City	Amerjeet Singh Indian	Bookkeeper	
JAMAALAKSHMI LENDING 8, TRADING CORP. U-132-JA Baiagtas Villas. Baiagtas SL, Pasay City	enderjoet Singh Bre Indian	r Supervisor	
THE PRESIDENT OF THE MARILA MISSION OF THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER	Ronald Albert Mile American	II Director for Temporal Affairs	

First Gen ties up with Iceland firm

Reykjavík Energy Invest (REI) have teamed up to bid for the government's 60-percent stake in geothermal power producer PNOC

REI is the international business development and investment arm of Reykjavik Energy and Geysir Green Energy, Geysir Green is a leading investment company within the geothermal industry investing in developing projects as well as geothermal

Reykjavík Energy is touted as a world leader in the use of geothermal energy. REI and Geysir Green announced their merger early this month.

First Gen said it has formed a joint venture with REI that will explore geothermal energy opportunities within and outside the Philippines.

The sale of the government's stake in PNOC-EDC is the first such project that the companies will work together on.

The government has set Nov. 5 for the The bidding is slated on Nov. 21.

Elizabeth Sanchez-Lacson

FIRST GEN CORP AND ICELAND-BASED

Energy Development Corp. (PNOC-EDC).

In a disclosure to the stock exchange,

Details of the joint venture have yet to be

submission of qualification documents for the PNOC-EDC bid from interested parties.

JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER

ASIAN HOSPITAL, INC.

Alabang, Muntinkipa City

SHIMIZU CORPORATION

FIBERLINE INDUSTRIES INC.

communicate with the Regional Director.

5/F King's Court Blog. L

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130 4th St., 10th Avenue,

2205 Civic Orive, Fillewest Corp. City,

DAY SAINTS, INC.

13 Temple Drive

Greenmeadows,

Quezon City

Maketi City

Caloocan City

Agatha Ann L. Daquigan OIC, Regional Orector

Chief Executive

Project Manager

Plant Engineer

Officer

Erik Curtis Fox

Northsugu Tomala

Wenceng Zhong

American

Japanese

if you have any information/objection to the above-mentioned application/s please

COMPRED BY SCHATZI OUODALA, INQUIRER RESEARCH

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OBITUARY REQUIREMENTS:

1 Copy of Death

Certificate Any identification document (I.D.)

CREDIT



peacefully joined her Creator on October 30, 2007 at the age of 48.

She is survived by her loving husband Atty. Eleno M. Mendoza, Jr.

children Karla and Gino, mother Sarah sisters Susan and Anna, brothers Romulo, Jr. and Danilo sister-in-law Nitz, brothers-in-law Edwin, Nito and Nard and nephews and nieces.

Her remains lie in state at Chapel 1 of the Mortuary and Crematory at The Heritage Park until November 2, 2007.

Cremation will be on November 3, 2007 at 8:00am followed by a Necrological Mass at St. Alphonsus De Liguori, Magallanes, Makati City

Marthary - Crematory Heran Par



many make a title of the first than the sales of the best of the sales and the sales are the sales of the sal

To the family and friends of the late

Hans Arber.

we thank you for your thoughts of sympathy signified through your presence at the wake, prayer cards, flowers, telephone calls, emails or text messages.

All these expressions of affection were deeply appreciated, as were your shared memories of Mr. Arber or Tatay, or Lolo Hans, as you endearingly addressed him

Thank you again and

Juan C. Alonzo, Jr. "Johnby"

January 20, 1954 - October 26, 2007 Sangguniang Bayan – Ballesteros, Cagayan

Beloved husband to Anna Marie Garello loving father to Kobe and Joshua son to Johnny Alonzo (†) and Charing Cartagena brother to Carlo, Pinky, Pat (†), Mayyang, Pia, Seg, Val, Peking and Jugo brother-in-law to Linda, Ray, Romy, Paddy, Jo Ann and Bhel uncle to Johnjohn, Letlet, Angelica, Richard, Patrick, Micaela, Matthew, Paolo, Alec (†), Chavelli, Mike, Ian, Jeric, Dana, Nadine, Dominic, Xavier, Gail and Alex.

Interment will be at 9:00 a.m., on Saturday, 3 November 2007, at Ballesteros, Cagayan.

Death Notice

ESTRECHO

December 25, 1942 -- October 29, 2007

Died in the Grace of our Lord at the age of 64.

His body lies in state at Ambassador Memorial Chapels, (2" Flr., Chapel A). 257 A. Mabini St., Caloocan City

Cremation to be announced later.

...absent from the body to be present with the Lord."

2 Cortnthians 5:8

On: Thursday 8th November 2007 at 10:30am At: Bo. Ugong, Pasig City

Over 400 Lots

Feed Mill Plant and Spares - (2) MANUET Blevstor Approx. 55m; (9) Bucket
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Weigher; CHRONOS Pellet Mill; CHRONOS, MIAG Soya Bean Processor; 5.5.
Luquid Ingredient Tanks; HENRY SIMON Cyclone; MIAG Degermonation Machine;
MIAG FORSBERG Dust Separator, MIAG Crusher; BOUg Cap Material Transfer
Weigher; SPROUT BAYER 5000 bg. Capacity Morer; DALAMATIC Dust Control
System

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AMERICAN Optical Colony Counter, MARCONI Instrument Mosture Meter, MC CLOSKEY Scientific Edible Oil Colonmeter, PLLCH Microplate Beader,

BUHLER MAG; RISHER Ph. Meters, JENWAY Ph Meter, GALLENHAMP Oven;

Triple Beam Balance; METTLER / GALLERHAMP Digital Scales, ISHITA Computer

Miscellaneous Equipments - (3) WESCO 40,000 lbs Cap Aluminium Trailers, STANDARD KESSEL / KEWAME Steam Boller; HANKINSON Screw Type

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Tanks; S.S. Centeen Equapment; Canteen Tables; Office Ferriture & Equipment;

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The Public is hereby notified that the

heirs of the late MARCELO M. RAM-REZ

have executed an Extrajudicial Settlement

of Estate over a parcel of lot (known as Lot

No 21-099, consisting of 360 square

meters, more or less, situated at

Poblacion, Valencia, Bukidnon, lot (known

as Lot No. 1-8-1-A-3, being a portion of Lot

No 1-B-1-A, Psd-101327-019433 consisting of 335 square meters, more or

less, situated at Barrio of Poblacion,

Municipality of Valencia; a parcel of land

(known as lot no. 222-U-9-A, being a

portion of lot no. 222-U-9 consisting of

5,000 square meters, more or tess, situated at Poblacion, Municipality of

Valencia, of the Register of Deeds of

Malaybalay, Bukidnon, before Notary

Public Hippocrates R. Rocina entered In his Notarial Register as Doc. No. 475,

Page No. 95, Book No. VII; Series of 2007

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Malabon City May 19, 1974 - October 31, 2006 B.S. Chemistry - UP Diliman, Q.C. Class 1996

His loving parents Renato & Cerelina; brother Josefino; sisterin-law Josephine; niece Mary Jaden; nephew Benedict; request relatives, friends & classmates to remember him in their prayers. Holy Mass will be offered for him today at 6:00 p.m. at the Immaculate Conception Church, Malabon City.



9-99 Our family wishes to say goodbye to our beloved Mom.

FE ROVELLA ALHAMBRA-BORRERO

Who went home with Jesus to our heavenly Father on October 29, 2007 at the age of 76.

She is survived by husband DELFIN and children. Her body lies in state at the Soncherium, Araneta Avenue near Quezon Avenue, Quezon City-

"...absent from the body, present with the Lord"

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Cremation will be on November 2, 2007, 9:00 a.m. 2 Cor 5:8

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Office of the President Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council

> Board Resolution No. 806 Senes of 2007

AMENDING Section 3.c.4 of Implementing Rules and Regulations to Govern Section 18 of RA 7279

WHEREAS. Joint Ventures are one of the modes of compflance to

Sec 18 of RA 7279; WHEREAS, Joint Ventures are governed by the law on partnerships; WHEREAS, there is a need to require the provision of the two basic elements of a partnership to ensure that the joint ventures submitted as

compliance to Section 18 of RA 7279, legally qualify as such; WHEREFORE, be it RESOLVED, as it is hereby RESOLVED, that Section 3.c.4 of Implementing Rules and Regulations to Govern Section 18 of RA 7279 be revised to read as follows:

"Section 3. Mode of Compilance.

- For main subdivision projects which are limited to the sale of lots
- For main subdivision projects which consist of the sale of house and lot packages; x x X
- The socialized housing project equivalent to twenty percent (20%) of total subdivision project cost may also be compiled with in any of the following manner feasible in the municipality or city' x x x
 - (3) Community Mortgage Program (CMP). The developer's participation in a CMP project may either be any of the following: x x x
 - (4) Joint-Venture Projects. The developer may enter into a joint project or agreement with the concerned local government unit, with another private developer or any of the housing agencies, to develop a socialized housing project. His participation shall be equivalent to 20% of project area or 20% of the cost of the main subdivision project. The developer shall be required to submit to the HLRB a copy of the Joint-Venture Contract as proof of participation in a loint-Venture Project. THE JOINT VENTURE AGREEMENT SHOULD CONTAIN THE FOLLOWING: THE CONTRIBUTION OF A SPECIFIED SUM TO A COMMON FUND AND THE SHARING OF PROFITS. x x x"

APPROVED this 17th day of August 2007 at Makati City

HON NOUT DE CASTRO Vice-President of the Philippines and MEDOC Chairman

ENNESTO L. PINEDA Undersecretary, DOJ

ROMULO Q FABUE Chief Executive Officer and Commissioner

(FIRE

TERESITA A. DESIERTO

Commissioner

AUGUSTO B. SANTOS Deputy Director General, NEDA

AUSTERE A. PANADERO Undersecretary, DILG

JESUS YAP PANG Commissioner ARTURO SE DUBLADO

JOEL I. JACOB DPWHC Attested by:

Corhmissioner

PDI Get. 31, 2007)

CHARITO BLANSANG Board Secretary

with the Philippine Daily Inquirer.

[PDI-Oct. 24, 31 and Nov. 7, 2007]

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BILSINESS

Uncertainty marks consortium's stand

Group can't commit to additional gas production from Malampaya reserves

By Abigail L. Ho

THE MALAMPAYA DEEP WATER GAS-TO- new capacity that should come in time for Power project consortium remains uncer- the projected critical period in Luzon by tain on whether or not it can commit to provide additional gas from the Malampaya reserves, apart from the gas now being used tracted from the Malampaya gas find to fuel three power plants with a total capacity of 2,700 megawatts (MW)

Facundo Roco, an executive of consortium member Shell Philippines Exploration BV (Spex), told reporters that the matter of producing additional gas from the gas field still has to be carefully assessed

can still produce more gas (beyond the 2,700 MW)," said Roco, Spex general manager for external affairs. "The reserves are three kilometers under the ground, so it's not easy to determine that. We can't commit yet, at this point."

president of consortium member PNOC Exploration Corp., said there might be more gas from the field that could be pumped out at this time, but this had to be thoroughly

A more definite statement could likely be made by January, he said.

Spex had earlier said it would study the the Malampaya gas field to enable it to support between 300 MW and 500 MW of ad- clear?

ditional capacity in Luzon.

The additional gas could be used to fuel

Service Contract 38 states that gas exshould be enough to support a capacity of [

Right now, Malampaya supplies gas to the 1,200-MW Ilijan, 1,000-MW Sta. Rita and 500-MW San Lorenzo plants, all in Batangas.

In an earlier interview, Shell companies "We're still assessing whether or not we in the Philippines country chair Edgar Chua said Spex was still assessing the current situation before coming up with an investment plan for the planned increase in gas production.

"Everything depends on the timing," he said. "It's something we are looking at, but In a separate interview, Rafael Del Pilar, are yet to finalize. We'll get back to the (Department of Energy) soon since this forms part of our program."

He said that there were some issues that had to be reviewed, including the fact that, for a long time, the offtakers were drawing below minimum take-or-pay levels due to transmission constraints.

"There are still issues on the transmission possibility of increasing gas production at side," he said. "We can only come up with a good number once the way forward is



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Consolidation spells trade success for BIMP-Eaga

By Judy Quiros Inquirer Mindanao

DAVAO CITY-THE MAIN PLAY- emerging trend of products in ers in the Bruner-Indonesia- the international market," he Malaysia-Philippines East Asean said. Growth Area (BIMP-Eaga) are now seeking to eliminate internal trading and competition in capture larger markets, a senior Mindanao businessman said.

danao Business Council (MBC), would not be economically vitold reporters after the opening able to sell our coconuts for inof the BIMP Investments Conference (Icon) at the Marco Polo Hotel here last week that they were hoping "networking" would eventually help the members develop the trend of trading with the international market.

He said internal trading had become a barner for economic in Southern Mindanao, agreed improvement within the sub-region due to similarities of prod-

Eaga groups the economies of Mindanao, Sulawesi, Sandakan (Borneo), and Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei's capital.

"The BIMP Icon is a venue

where BIMP-Eaga member countries will share ideas on how to develop products to meet the

Lao added that consolidation is a key factor in accessing the international market, which could favor of consolidation, in a bid to really propel the economies of Eaga members.

We need to create economies Vicente Lao, chair of the Min- of scale," Lao explained. "It stance to Indonesia, which also produces the same product. The trend is to consolidate our products and sell it to China or other countries, which are not producing coconuts." Merly Cruz, director of the De-

> partment of Trade and Industry that consolidation is a good measure to adopt But she warned that it should

> be sustainable.

"Consolidation is easy to imagine, but ... there should be a product to move, there should be traffic to serve," she said.



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5.0MM - 9.99MM	4.75	4.75
10.0MM and up	5.00	5.00



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Editor Cesar D. Mangawang

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green cars and hot rides

Text and photos by Charles E Buban

OKYO-THE TOKYO MO tor Show has always been about technology and this year's 40th staging of one of the world's teading automobile expos is no exception as green cars featuring advanced propulsion technology share centerstage with some of today's fastest and most powerful production cars.

firs writer finally got the chance to get up use and personal with the Mitsubish. Labert Evolution X is well as her Eleavy In-Gustrics (m. ker of Sapars, brend of velu-d s) new Impreza WRX 511

Of course this writer also with used the mich awared ceput of the all new Nissan G. R. more en this caer.

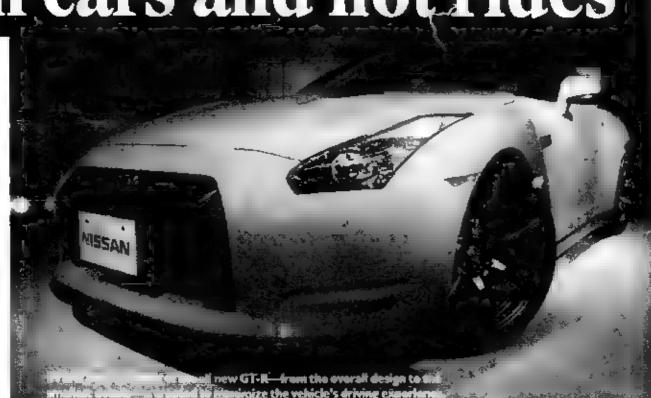
It is fy shows in tiwo to be car industry is comprisely developing solutions to increase energy efficiency and reduce a car's environmental impact, carmakers will never stop dishing out passion inspiring high-performance sports cars," said Raymond Tribdino, Nissan Motor Philippines Inc. se n.or manager for market and product plan-

Paraded

Indeed, while Nissan finally rolled out its most anticipated muscle car, it also paraded

its latest breakthroughs in gasoline, diesel and electric-powered vehicles.

According to Tribdino, Nissan sets a mid-term environmental action plan called "Nissan Graco Programs" 2010" that a program and the control of the called "Nissan Green Program 2010" that aims to seek ways to maximize the fuel economy of internal combustion engines.





The all-new GT-R ready to roll

THE UNVEILING OF THE ALL-NEW Nissan GT-R last week was an event that has been long expected.

Its prototype was initially univeiled at the 2001 Tokyo Motor Show, which gave hint at its manufacturer's plan to revive the badge (the last Nissan Skyhne GT-R series was made in 2002)

Then, during the 2005 Tokyo Motor Show, Nissan presented the GTR Proto concept and announced to expect its

production model by 2007

"Well, it has finally come true as the ail new GT-R was finally unveiled at last week's opening of the 2007 Tokyo Motor Show," said Raymond Tribdino, Nissan Motor Philippines Inc. senior manager for market and product planning.

ampacked

And judging by the crush of international media that packed the Nissan booth that day, this writer is very confident the all-new GT-R will be a hit

In fact, during the unveiling, Nissan President and CEO Carlos Ghosn announced that the first three months of production are already sold out (Nissan aims to sell 200 GFR cars a month in Japan)

Before Ghosn appeared, Nissan hinted at the raw power of this supercar: a video clip showed the al.-new GF-R as it laps the famed Nürburgring circuit in Germany.

It clocked 7 38.54, slightly faster than the Porsche Carrera GT, the current record holder in that famous racetrack.

"The all-new GT-R has raised the performance bar and promises to break more records. With such a performance at the Nurburgring and considering that the car was not yet fully set up, it easily enters into the supercar category and is set to take on the leaders of this category such as Porsche AG, and Fiat SpA's Fer-ran and Maserati," Tribdino said.

Break records

Back in 1995, the Nissan Skyline, the predecessor of the GT-R, was the

THE ALL-NEW/ B2-3



MOTORING



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The responsible automotive behemoth

TOKYO-SINCE KIICHIRO TOYODA got it into his head to shift from textile looms to manufacturing automobiles, the Toyota Motor Corp. has come a long way. In a short 70 years from the first Model AA rolling off the Koromo plant assembly line, the Andre Palma Japanese manufacturer now has its sights set on the No 1 spot in the global automotive scheme of things. Great really if you are one to speculate on the worldwide stock markets but honestly the impact on the Filipino motorist is anything but a forgone conclusion

One key phrase frames Toyota's future strategy for world domination. "Sustainable mobility" seems like words plucked out of just any public relations handbook but the way these two words will color and flavor the way we will drive in the very near future is undeniable, scary even By ad dressing environmental, safety and congestion issues, the way we drive and what we drive w...l change dramatically.

in a world obsessed with carbon footprints, protecting biodiversity and the search for renewable sources of energy, the automobile is often painted as public enemy No. 1 While the

Battle for Mother Earth seems lost and the human race is doomed to a carbon choked future care of the evil automobile, small inroads have

MY DRIFT

been made that responsibly look toward tomorrow.

Targets

Since 1997, over a million Toyota branded, gasoline electric hybrids have been sold. Sales volumes point to a peak in 2017 where these fue. efficient, low-impact vehicles will reach over a million units a year Yet the oush for sustainability does not end with the current generation of hy-

TOYOTA FT-HS, green and me

bhp hybrid sports coupé

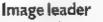
eco-car, diverse sources of energy with low carbon impact from production to consumption are the targets.

The days of the fossil fuel dependence are numbered but the complete change over to cleaner, greener sources of energy may take a while in the interim, current power train innovation is channeled toward environmental performance as well as the driving dynamics that are the basis for any fundamentally sound automobile.

Toyota gasoline engines will snift from VVT-i (Variable Valve Timing intelligent) to D-4S (Direct Injection 4 Stroke) systems with continuous intake valve lift volume controls. Diesel powerplants will incorporate Piezo injectors, lower compression

tat os and stricter cat alviic converters with commondirect in jection tems. Finally transmissions move into 8speed autoand matics

CVT systems with total vehicle management sintes matching engine load more precisely with speed and emissions



At the forefront is Toyota's image

binds. In the search for the ultimate leader in the hybrid segment, the second generation Prius. The handful on Ph.l.ppine roads can be seen as a sign of things to come, the tip of leading edge of the world wide hybrid mode. explosion that includes luxury models such as the Lexus GS450h and the

Even the locally popular Camry now comes in a hybrid model targeted at the North American market Seat time in these cars at Toyota's Mobilitas driving facility at Fuji Speedway, including the Aiphard hybrid mim van and the Harrier and Highlander hybrid SUVs confirm unexpected performance with attentiongrabbing fuel efficiency. Driving clean and green hybrids can apparently be fun but apparently not even a fraction of the fun the future holds.

The Jewel in Toyota's Hybrid Synergy Drive crown must be the FTHS sports concept. Rear-wheel drive with a 2+2 coupé layout, this sleek exercise in automotive design boasts a 3.5 liter V6 hybrid motor with over 400 bnp and four second times to 100

Touted as the spiritual successor to the Supra, pictures do not do the FT HS justice. Unfounded rumors point to a 2009 production date, just in time for the 41st Tokyo Motor Show. More than just a technology demonstrator, this single car shows that the tide is turning in favor of "sustainable mobility" indeed, and Toyota is leading the charge.

TRANSPORT TRIVIA

By Emman Cena

The Tokyo Craze

THE MUCH BALLYHOOED 40TH Tokyo Motor Show has begun with a loud bang last week. Big surprises and great revelations surely brought ocohhs and ahhhs to motoring enthustasts a.. over the world.

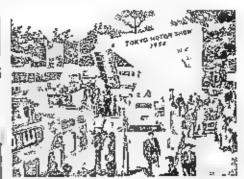
But what is really the fuss about the event that everyone goes gaga over .t?

The Tokyo Motor Show is a biennial auto show sometime held in the months of October or November at the Makuhan Messe, Chiba City in Japan. It is the jaw-dropping international snowcase of cars, motorcycles and commercial vehicles.

The first ever motor show was held at the Hib.ya Park in Tokyo from April 20 to 29, 1954. The show was then called the All Japan Motor Show. Some 270 veh.c.es were on d.splay, however, only 17 of which were passenger cars Trucks, buses and motorcycles made up most of the exhibited rides. It was believed to have gathered 547,000 visitors during its 10-day run.

At that time the most prominent cars were the Austin A40, Hillman Minx and the newly introduced Renault 4CV, as well as domestic vehicles such as the Prince Sedan AISH, Toyota Toyopet Super RH; Datsun Passenger Delux (Model DB-5), Ohta Sedan and Van, and three-wheeled vehicles from Dai-

The recently concluded and considered to be the most celebrated motor show's 40th year opened on Oct 26 and will run until Nov. 11. Around 1.5. million people are expected to flock the Makuhari Messe.



THE FIRST-EVER Tokyo Motor Show held at the Hiblya Park in Tokyo in 1954

www.inquirer.net



Mitsubishi's environmental performance cars

TOKYO-AT A GLITTERING IN- MITSUBISHI'S Concept ternational event like the 40th (X has a new 1.8 liter Tokyo Motor Show displaying 520 clean deset engine and new vehicles of 30 carmakers at a venue spread over 440,000 square meters, it is difficult to hold the attention of the 1.5 milhon visitors expected, including thousands from overseas, during its 16-day run.

On Press Preview day, several manufacturers caught the eye by exhibiting outrageously styled concept cars. While the designs of the three concept cars presented by Mitsubishi Motors Corp. were not as edgay in-your-face futuristic as the Toyota HI-CT, Honda Puyo or Nissan Pivo2, they looked more user friendly, more practical and more ready to leap from the

ON THE

ROAD

Mendoza

drawing board incommercial production in the near future.

And for visitors already in the market for a new car, Mitsubishi un- Aida Sevillaveiled the latest iteration of the Lancer Evolution,

which is one of the fastest highperformance mass production cars in the world yet is affordably priced. The more sedate version of the Evo X, the 2008 Lancer sedan (named as the Galant Fortis in Japan) was also on view.

A closer look

People kept flocking back to the Mitsubishi pavilion to take a closer look at the 1 MiEV Sport electric minicar, the Concept-CX compact SUV and the Concept ZT clean diesel 2.2 liter premium sedan, all three of which represent Mitsubishi's key auto-manufacturing values of Driving Pleasure, Safety and Environmental Responsibility.

Matsubisha's focus on Environmental Performance evolved from these three key values with the electric I MiEV sports coupé as the environmental flagship The culmination of 35 years of EV (electric vehicle) R&D, the M.EV experimental car was finalized in 2006 and has undergone public road testing At present, M.tsubish, is working with several



THE 1.2-LITER clean diesal engine Concept-ZT premium sedan has



Sport draws energy from natural

sources via auxiliary solar glass

panels and wind turbine fans

(used during deceleration only).

To further save energy, the tail-

lights and other lights use low-en-

battery under the floor and the

motor, inverter and charger under

the cargo area lowers the .-MiEV's

center of gravity while enhancing

front/rear weight distribution.

This characteristic of the rear mid-

ship layout frees up space for oc-

cupants and luggage and con-

tributes to vehicle stability. The

body and suspension use strong,

aghtweight and highly rigid ex-

truded and die-cast aluminum,

improving fuel efficiency and per

formance.

Crashworthy

form a protective barrier.

the car in top shape.

aubishi's

performance.

The location of the 330-volt

ergy, highly luminous LEDs.

MiEV on the market.

Why the fuss over the 1 MiEV? It produces little noise and zero onroad carbon dioxide emissions, costs less to run and its lithiumion batteries can be quick charged. in 30 minutes using a 3-phase 200V supply system. Using a reguiar 200-volt household domestic outlet, it takes seven hours to fully

recharge the i cruising range of 160 km When driving downhill, slowing down or braking, the MiEV recov-

ers mertia, energy, employing the motor as a generator,

3 motors

The I-M.EV Sport weighs only 970 kg, is shod with 175/46R17 tires, has a max speed of 180 km per hour and can run a distance of 200 km on a single charge. Two in-wheel motors drive the front wheels of the 1 M1EV Sport while a single motor powers the rear wheels, with electric-powered 4WD (E-4WD) optimizing the power generated by each motor. Sporty performance and excessent stability, demonshing preconceptions about the drivability of EVs, result from the S-AWC (Super All Wheel Control) system that integrates management of the E-4WD, E-AYC (Electric Active Yaw) Control), ABS and Active Stability

Control It has a microwave wireless charging system to make recharging more convenient. Moreover, aside from the energy recycling system of the basic i-MiEV, the Of green . . .

Included in this plan is the development of a clean diesel engine that will soon power the apcoming 2008 X Trail compact SUV (to be sold in Japan), the development of the Variable Valve Event and Lift system that will be installed in the upcoming gasoline engine of the Skyline Coupe (also to be sold in Japan), the development of the company's own design of a continuously variable transmission that will be paired to several Nissan engines, and the acceleration of the development of the next generation lithium-ion battery for use in various hybrid electric and electric vehicles that Nissan is concerving

Environmental consideration

In fact, even the newly unveiled GT-R super car, which boasts a 475 horsepower, 3.8-liter twin turbo V6 "VR38" engine, meets Japan's ultra-low emission vehicle standards as proof of Nissan's seriousness in putting environmental consideration a

Aside from developing cleaner emissions in both of its gasoline and diesel engines. Nissan is also putting a lot of research in battery-powered vehicles, which the company believes holds a lot of promise

"Case in point a Nissan's athum-ion powered Pivo 2 that was unveiled at the motor show. While it uses the same type of rechargeable battery commonly used in ty, safety and reliability," Tribdino said

PTVO 2's battery is so compact it frees up more cabin space as well as saves on total weight. consumer electronics, Pivo 2's powerplant is more advanced," Tribdino informed,

More compact

Por the first time, Nissan was able to develop a more compact athium-ion battery. Like flat metal sheets that can be laid on top of one another (similar to a sans rival cake), they require much less space than today's cylindrical shaped lithium-ion batteries, thereby freeing up more space to increase cabin dimension as well as saving on total

Though half the size of today's conventional batteries, it's 1.5 times more powerful and twice the capacity. With this battery, Pivo 2 could now travel about 126 km on a single charge and plugs into a regular home. electric socket

But despite the advancement, carmakers like Nissan admit that they are still looking for the ultimate environment-friendly vehi-

"The goal is to have a car that could deliver zero impact on the environment. However it must also be cost-efficient to build as well as it should be attractive for the car buyer not only in terms of price but also to its drivabili-

The all-new GT-R ready . . . From page 102-1

first production vehicle to break the 8minute barrier," Tribdino said

Under the hood of the all-new GT-R is a 3.8-liter twin turbocharged V6 engine that was specially developed for the all-new GT-R. With 475 horsepower on tap, this sleek sports car is being rumored to reach 100 kph in just 3 6 seconds.

The potent engine is teamed to a new paddle-shift, a twin-clutch 6-speed transmission as well as to what Nissan calls as the "most advanced four wheel drive system on a road car ever used '

Called the Advanced Total Traction Engineering System for A.,-Electronic Torque Spit) 4-wheel-drive system, this latest version is able to send nearly all of the torque could fetch P17 million. to just the rear wheels

Sharp edges, smooth curves

Aggressively styled, the all-new GT-R incorporates both sharp edges and smooth curves with a wide stance and large wheel

With a drag coefficient of just 0.27, the all-new GT-R is one of the most aerodynamic cars on the road," Tribding said.

On sale in Japan in December, the GT-R goes to America next June and the rest of the world shortly after that.

Pricing outside of Japan has not yet been. announced, but based on the Yen listing the GT-R could be priced below \$80,000 in the United States and in the Philippines, it



Of F1, jets and robots

electronic 4WD and LSD.

we need to have Formula I racing. Comparatively, the amount of gasoline consumed in by all 22 teams on Formula 1 races over one year is half the amount of gasoline that a single trip from Tokyo to Frankfurt would require on a plane. Thanks to Formula 1, billions of people around the world are enjoying themselves. Q: After a quite disappointing season

in Formula 1, what are your plans for next year?

A: I think because of my age, my memory is starting to fail, I've forgotten everything about this season (laughter) But for some strange reason my memory is very clear. about the year before that. I remember especially very well the Hungarian Grand Prix (iaughter). I think this season we have come to understand what we need to work on technically and also we have reinforced the engineering team. We're thinking most likely next season you'll start to see the results and we'll be on the top positions where Honda is supposed to be

Q: You have any plans of changing your driver lineup, include a Japanese driver?

A: Next season we're planning to stick to the current driver lineup.

Q: What's your timetable for commercial production of diesel-fed Hondas and what Honda models will first run on clean dieseis?

A: The definition of clean diesel is very difficult because diesel on sale in Europe now is already clean. But then in the United States and Japan the regulations that are being said to be put in place and the NOx

level that is required there is extremely stringent, meaning we cannot just bring the European cars into these markets. Therefore, we need to overcome these technical challenges so that we can clear the requirements in both the United States and Japan We're hoping to be able to launch diesel engines within two years (in these markets)

Q. At the other end of the spectrum is the Asian market, where diesel fuel quality is low. How will you approach this?

A: As you say, for clean diesel, sulfur content needs to be reduced. Unless you can do so, we cannot serve clean diesel in these markets Japan has already complied, Europe also The United States has come close to meeting these requirements but it requires a lot of money. You need to invest, and eventually there will come a time the Philippines has to make that in-

Q: Do you see Honda participating in the F1 and the 24-hour Le Mans using diesel engines?

A: For the Formula 1 races they have their own unique standards and I don't think that we will be able to use diesels for the time being. For Le Mans it's not time for us yet to seriously be a challenger there. We think Formula 1 is the pinnacle, the most difficult race of all.

Q: When do you expect us to see fuel cell cars on the streets?

A: At the motor show, we have on display the concept mode,, and based on that model next year we will be launching fuel cell vehicles, but it will be just in Japan and the United States. We could be selling some tens of thousands of these within maybe 10



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myearthdream.com is on its rear

COMPACT Renaissance Zero is

By Tessa R. Salazar

OKYO—IF IT MOVES, WE'LL build a better one.

That, in a nutshell, seems to be what Honda is keen on doing in the near (and not-so-near) future. Takeo Fuku, president and CEO of Honda, in a 15minute interview with members of the Philippine motoring media, revealed the carmaker's plans on not limiting itself to two- and four-wheeled contraptions

After coming out with such "environ-mental" vehicles such as the Civic 2.0GL, Stream, Partner 4WD, the CR-V Elysion Prestige and Crossroad models in 2007, which Honda claims have all attained fuelefficiency ratings mandated in its 2011 standards, Fukui says Honda is now developing a jet engine, and more Asimo-like household robots.

Q: After cars and motorbikes, what's next with Honda?

A: The first delivery of the jets will be on 2010. Unlike automobiles and motorcycles, we have to have a longer perspective and outlook when it comes to the airplane busiHonda's design research model of a lightweight hybrid sports can.

ness. First we work on the jets, and then would be Asimo. We are to supply Asimo to ordinary households.

Q. So, will Honda go seriously into the

aviation industry? A: When it comes to our jet business, we have to think of this long term, so we have to put in place a long term strategy and make it a good business for us. Only after that will the next step be on making Asimo

as a business. Q. Can you genuinely reconcile F1 mo-torsports with environmentalism, con-sidering that motorsports require large

amounts of fuel and tires?
A: I think we might save some fuel if we're going to stop formula racing, but peo-ple don't live thinking about the environ-ment only. You need to enjoy your life That's what we're here for, and therefore we think that we need to have motorsports for the sake of enjoyment. That's the reason



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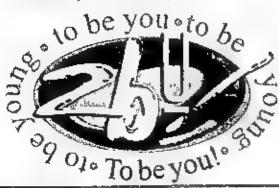
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o will you be this

2bUI wants to know Your Halloween custume will say a of about you—and we warm to listen Take a

picture of you and of your friends during your Halinween delebration and tell us send in the best about your costumes.

We will publish a spread of your photos and the readers who ghotographs will win

surprises. While you are having run and dressing up this Halloweer 2bUI correspondence will

be doing something equally crazy (and scary) Read about it about in the pages of 25UI



Monsanto ("Rambol") in the year's biggest gathering of professional and independent comics artists and publishers—the 3rd Filipino Komiks Con-

Check out the launch of the hotrest new titles and exciting events like the on-the-spot drawing contest that will showcase the best in the industry. The Komiks Convention will be held at the 3 University of the Phiappines Bahay ng Alumni in Dihman, QC, on Nov. 17; 10 a.m.-6 p.m. -

Visit http://komikon.blogspot.com.



HOLIDAY INN CLARK BRINGS BACK its much-awaited Halloween event today and transforms into the Haunteil Maze a dark realm inhabited by creatures of the dark.

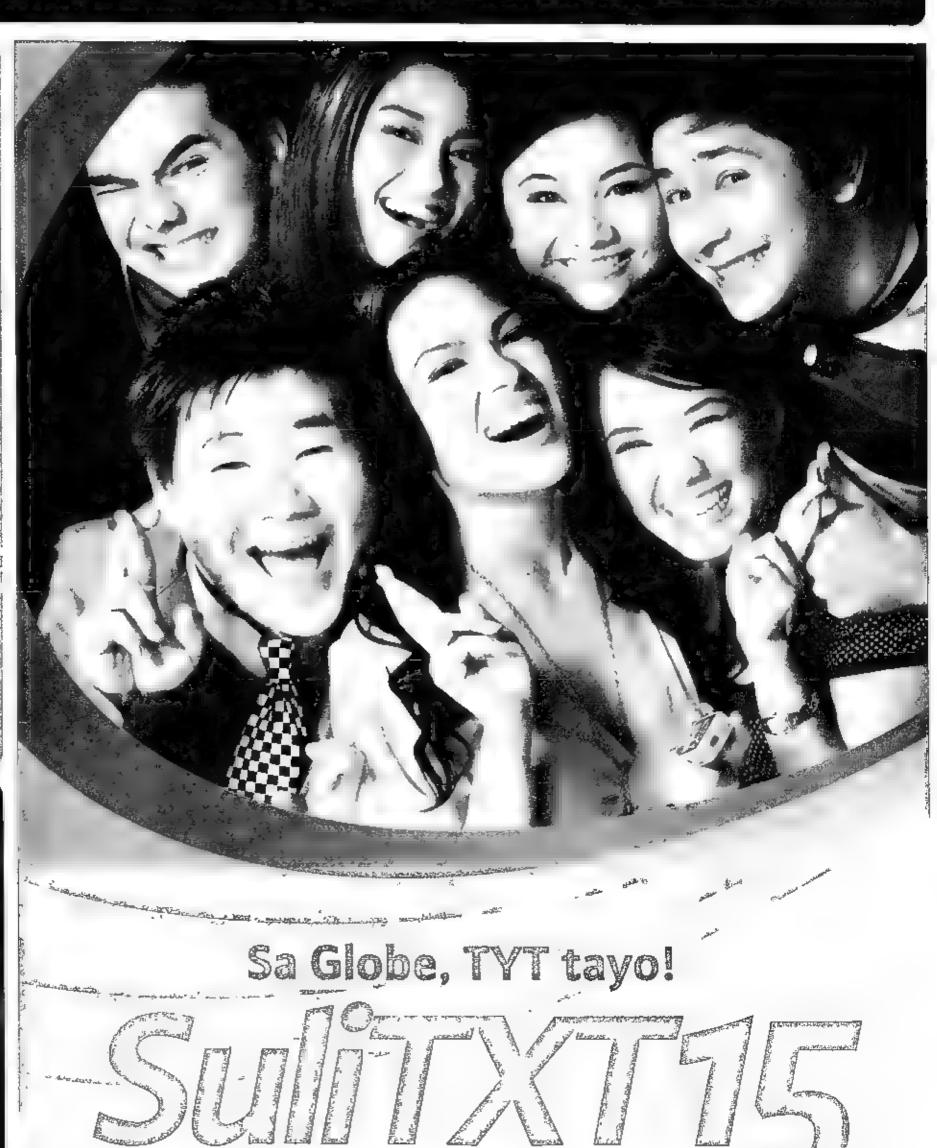
Kids and adults alike can take part in the colorful parade of costumes The scariest or most creative getup can win exciting prizes. -

For kids, there are party games and trick or treat activities, with spooktacular prizes and loot bags, not to mention carnival booths, face-painting, animal shows and a souvenir, -bazaan-

Holiday Jun Clark is throwing in special room rates from Oct. 31-Nov. 4. Get a well-appointed superior room for only P4,000 net with a buffet breakfast for two, use of the free-form swimming pool, Fitness Inn and Kid's inn, loor bags, tickets to the Halloween event and a lot more.

But if you want a more quiet and laid-back evening feast on the hotel's Mequeni Café buffet, sip your favorite spirits at Copu's bar or incluige in mouth-watery grilled delights at the Rodizio rooftop grill,

Holiday Inn Clark is at the Mimose Leisure Estate in Clark Freeport, Pampanga. Call 845,1888 in Manila or (045) 5998000.



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SKULLS and Spanish

Text by Blanca Consumita 2bUl Correspondent Photos by Jake Verzona

O chamber to be haunted, wrote Emily Dickinson, "One need not be a house; the brain has corridors surpassing material place."

Although store-bought cobwebs and masks dripping with blood lend an eerie tone to costume parties, Halloween, as we know it, is anything but a terrifying spectacle. For some people, it's the time to get their yearly dose of the obligatory fright-night specials on TV schools, urban legends and towns supposedly pursued by witches and mischievous dwarves)

For others, it's the time of the year to fulfillall their costume fantasies. Catholic schoolgirls bashfully don Playboy bunny costumes. corridors surpassing material place."

fully don Playboy bunny costumes, straight-A nerds throw on pin-striped suits and gold medallions to pass off as Mafia bosses, and tiaras sparkle in the night sky as frustrated princesses pretend to be-

royalty for a day (or night).
From generic pumpkins and princesses, today's costumes have morphed into more interesting forms. For instance, generic witch-es and wizards are nowhere to be seen on the Halloween front; but if you check for props (like spell-books, butterbeer cork necklaces and lightning-shaped acars), you'll probably find an aspiring member of the cast of the "Harry Potter" se-ries. Little kids don't just want to be princesses, they want to be Dis-ney princesses! Ariel, Belle, Snow White, Aurora and the whole lot. However, even "Harry Potter," "Lord of the Rings," and Disney costumes have become trite; bood



ROYALTY in disguise



the state of the s





CHANGING of the guard







p-it-yourself costumes e the rage this Halloween

ed cloaks and stick-on lightning scars are mass-produced and sold in department stores along with candy-colored satin gowns and rhinestone tiaras. Looking for a ring to duplicate Frodo's gold one?

Just head down aisle B, right next to Cinderella's glass slippers.

Creating your own

While there's nothing wrong with throwing on a store-bought costume for Halloween, there's a certain satisfaction to be derived from creating your own costumes. You can design and sew your own outlandish duds, or simply dig through your grandmother's closet to score vintage finds. You can salso rent crazy getups at costume-stores, but veer away from the prefabricated cartoon styles and creare something that's entirely your own-by adding touches of humor (or the macabre) to the outfit.

If you can't do something com-pletely out of the ordinary (say, pair-ing a space suit with a feathered headdress and a wooden cane), get together with a bunch of friends and of costumes. Swap headgear and accessories, or simply go as mis-matched characters—like Darth Vader and Snow White, the Brady Bunch and the Simpsons, or if you're into politics, Ninoy Aquino and Gloria Macapagai Arroyo.

Put a little more thought and

add elements of the absurd in your costumes. Not only will you have more laughs in coming up with them, you'll definitely stand out in a sea of black-robed wizards and Piayboy bunny wannabes.

E-mail the author at biancacon-sunji@yahoo.com





Styled by Blanca Consunji Makeup by Jigs Mayuga of L'Oreal Paris Vianney Guese of L'Oreal Paris Studio

Models: Maan Zulaybar, lan Miranda,





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The government of Camarines Sur invited 2bU! and LomoManila to see just how much fun their paradise has to offer. CamSur has become the country's wakeboarding capital -thanks to Gov. L-Ray Villafuerte's efforts. Watch out for 2bU!'s wakeboarding special - which includes tips and tricks from top wakeboarders and the 411 on the recent Philippine Cable Wakeboarding Nationals held at the Camsur Waterports Complex just last week. This week, we have the lowdown on other CamSur adventures you can try maybe this sem-break-fishing, snorkeling, islandhopping, even visits to a deer farm and different waterfalls and hot springs. Read this 2bU! CamSur special and have fun with us. Visit www.camsurwatersportscomplex.com.

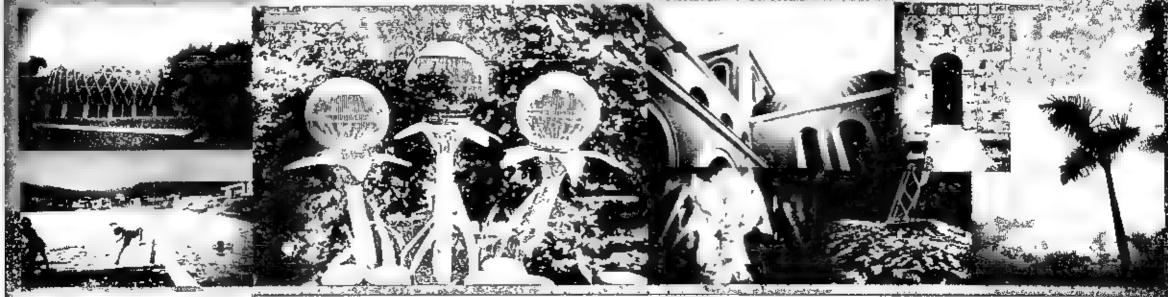
COTTAGES at CWC













By Pam Pastor

OR SEVERAL DAYS, CAMSUR became a playground of sorts for 2bUl and skilled lomographers from LomoManila

We tried wakehoarding, went fishing, is-land-hopping and snorkeling. We climbed over tree trunks to visit two waterfalls, we med to see just how much heart our skin could stand in the hot springs. We went on a tour of beautiful churches and we are good food every single day. But it wasn't all fun.

Armed with over 20 cameras and rolls and rolls of film, Ron Cruz, Marge Francia, Francis Gaerlan, Francis Inton, Jill Lejano,

Match a beautiful and vibrant place with experienced

lensmen and

the result

Kitkat Rodrigo, Rollie Valenzuela and Melame Vicente set out to document the vibrance of Camarines Sur and everything it has to offer.

Although I am a lomo nut as well and

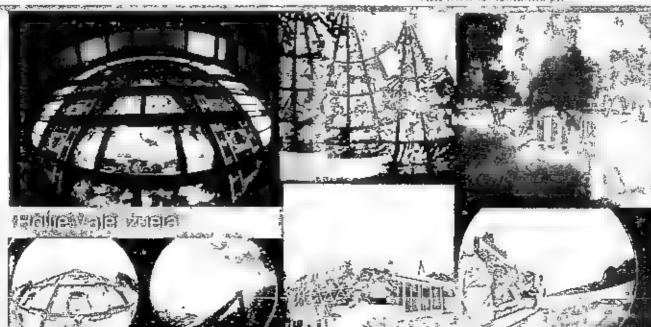
constantly carry around at least three cameras, it is always fascinating for me to see experienced lomographers in action.

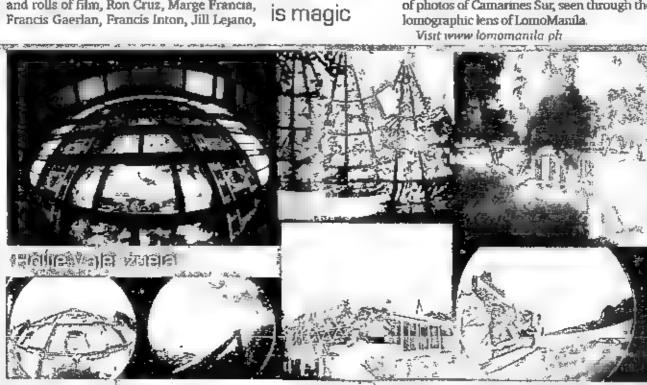
They find angles I never see, they pay attention to details I miss, they discover beauty in the mundane and create art out of the ordinary. And when the photos finally come out, it is pure magic.

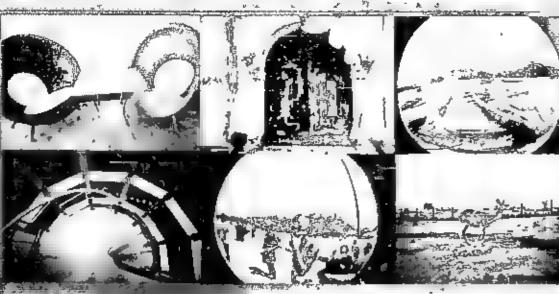
out, it is pure magic.

It was no different on this trip—the images will blow you away. On this page is a spread of photos of Camarines Sur, seen through the lomographic lens of LomoManila.

Visit www lomomanila ph



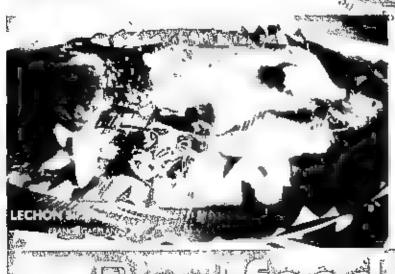




रिल्लिक्षित्र क्षित्र क्षेत्र के स्थान









BABY Back Ribs, CWC Bacon Cheese Burger, Popcorn Shrimp

egg), Meatball and Mozzarella

Melt (Italian meatball sub with

tomato sauce and topped with stringy melted mozzarella

Squid (large grilled squid in teriyaki sauce) and Kare-Kare.

Chimichanga, Nachos with 8

Layer Dip, Beer Battered Cala-

mares, Grilled Lapu-Lapu with

Creamy Lemon Butter Sauce

and Double Chocolate Eskimo

Other must-tries are the

Lechon Siram is weeks-old suckling pig flavored with Bicol spices and slowroasted until the skin is dark crimson and crispy yet the meat remains tender and juicy

THERE'S NO DOUBT ABOUT IT, and topped with a sunny side up. Pie, a big ice cream sandwich hours spent wakeboard.ng (or fine, cheering for the better wakeboarders) can leave you ready reasty hungry.

But starving is not an option cheese), 4-Cheese Pizza, Grilled at the CWC, not with an extensive menu that's packed with American, Japanese, Bicolano and even Mexican favorites.

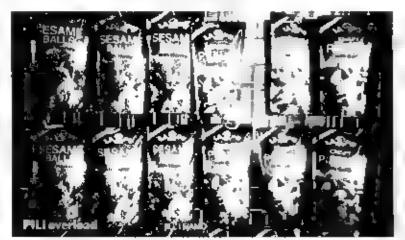
There were three items from the menu that were a constant at our table. B.colano Special Pizza (spicy laing, Bicol express, mozzarella cheese, sprinkled with crispy bagoong), which everyone just refers to as "Laing Pizza", CWC Bacon Cheese Burger (Bacon strips, sliced cheese and a choice of one, two or three burger patties), which you can top with blue cheese sauce, barbecue ranch, garlic cream cheese or Caesar dressing, and Baby Back Ribs, which was served with a side of fries.

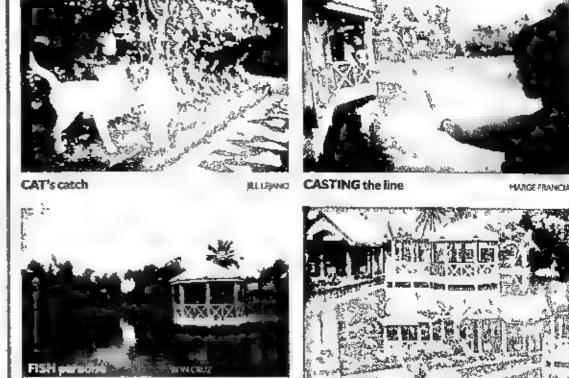
Our top picks also include Loco Moco (two burger patties in a bowl of rice, smothered in gravy



meant to be shared.

For an extra-special meal, order CWC's Lechon Siram one day ahead. It's a lechon experience you haven't tried before, say the people behind the CWC. "The delicate and spicy flavors of Bicol are infused into our weeks-old suckling pigs and slow roasted until the skin is dark crimson and crispy and the succulent flesh remains tender and juick*



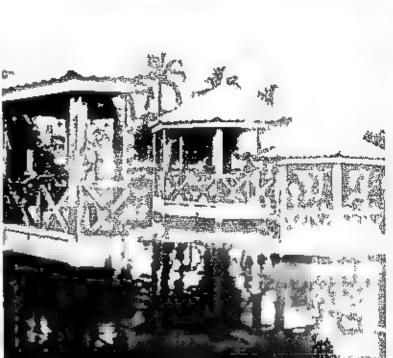


IT'S A DIFFERENT KIND of thrill.

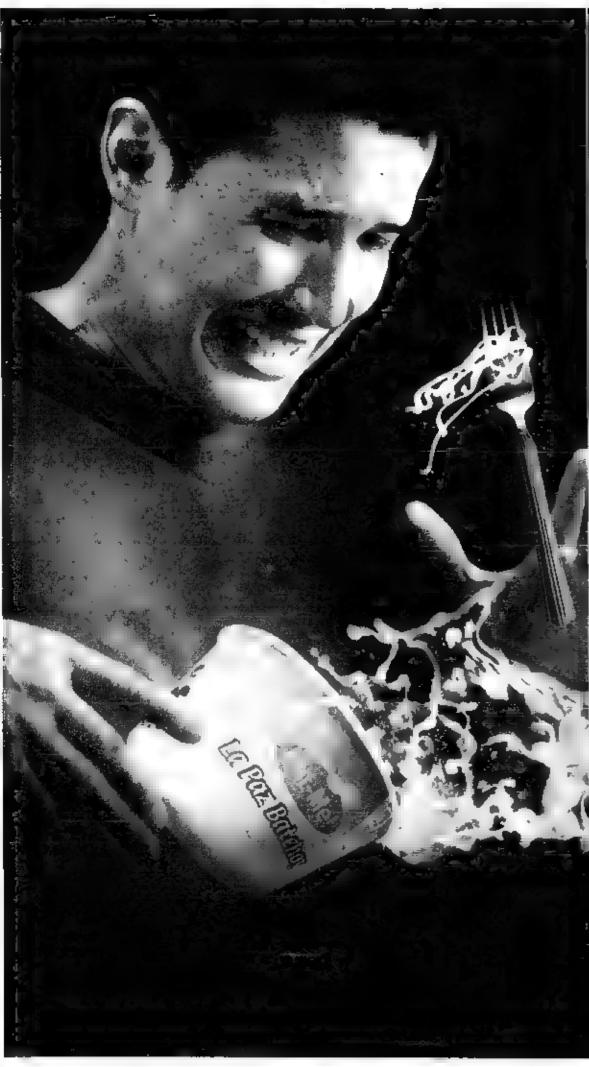
Making sure your bait is securely attached to your hook (and avoiding drawing your own blood), choosing your spot, sprinkling the water with pellets so the fish will swarm towards you, waiting patiently for that gentle tug, that sign of a bite and finally reeling in your catch-now you know why Hemingway, Clapton and other icons were hooked!

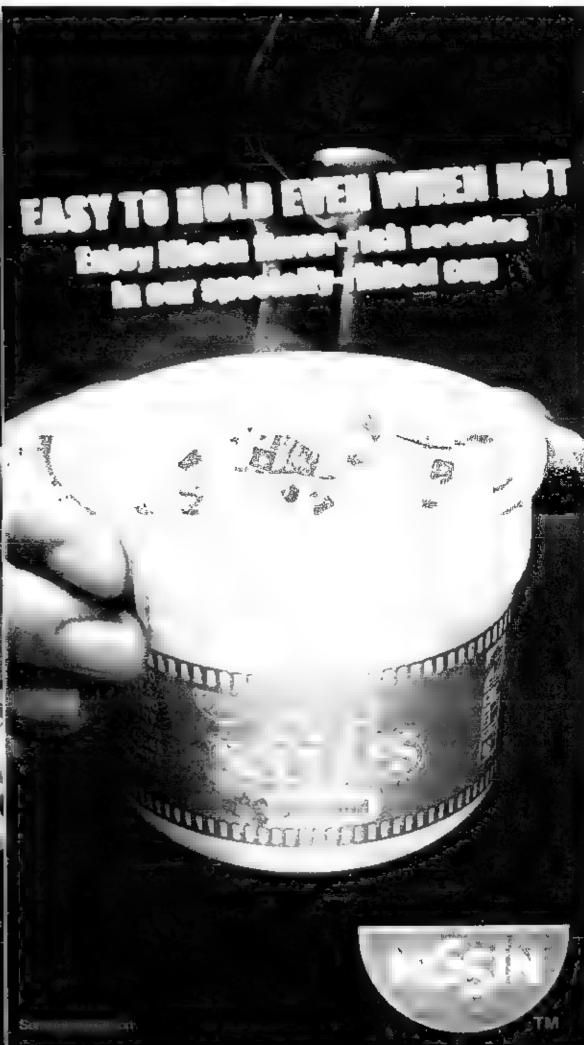
We spent a beautiful morning testing our fishing skills in Camarines Sur and ended up having gnlled tilapta, our very own catch, for lunch.

It was a first shot at fishing for most of us-and the fish weren't the only ones biting.



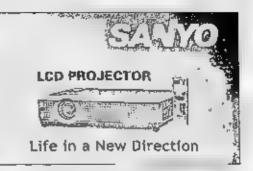
HOOKED on fishing

























Caramoan and other CamSur islands are nature's bliss and high

By Pam Pastor

isn't how you normally like to spend your Sundays.

But when that boat takes you to Caramoan and

leads you to beautiful islands like Matukad, Lahos and Kagbalingag, where you can swim, AKING UP AT 4 A.M. snorkel, take countiess pictures and eat lunch on the sand, it really is worth it.

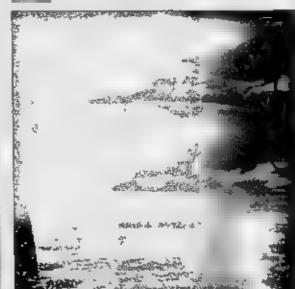
The islands were so beautiful I almost forgot my ordeal with motion sickness and the barf

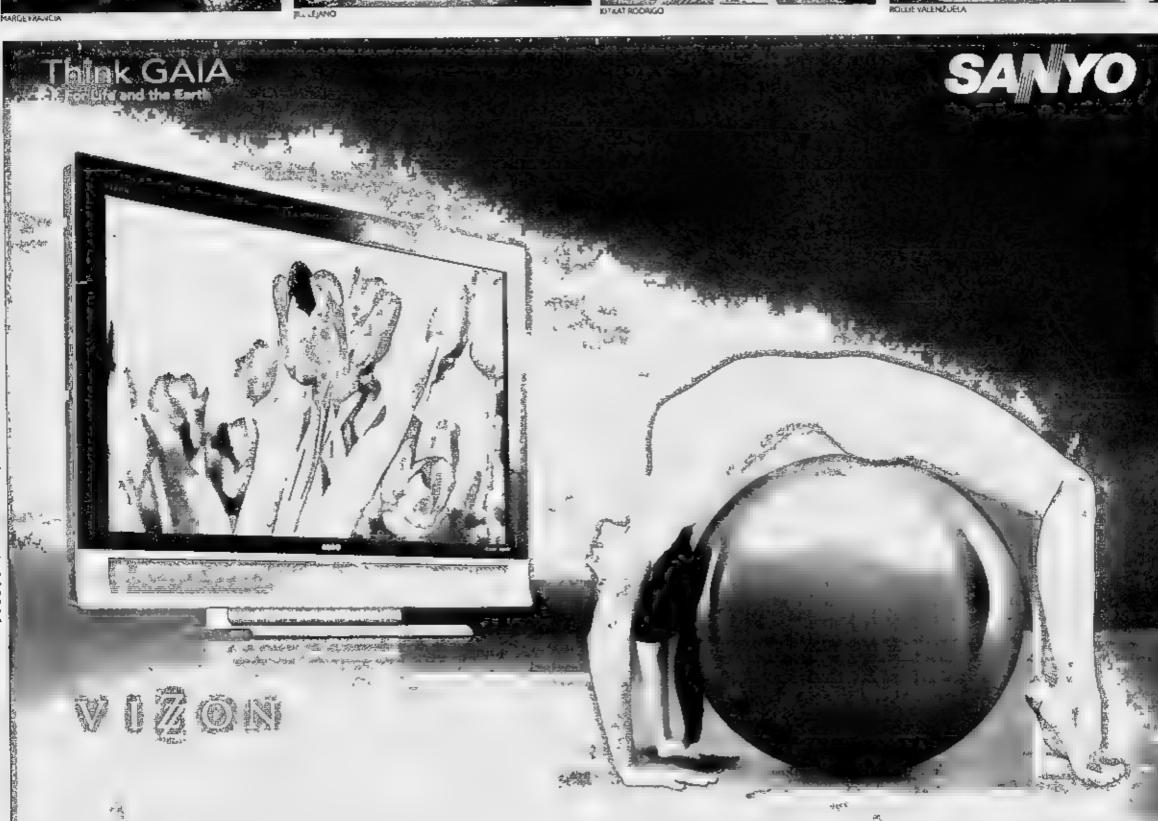
my ordeal with motion sickness and the barf bags. On the way back, the water was more peaceful, leaving me with enough energy to bond with my new best friend, Bonamine.

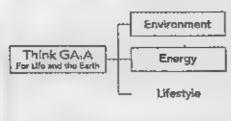












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Xacti



LCD PROJECTOR













TUTOO PERD TUTOO RING MARAMI PANG PROBLEMA ANG DARATING



PUGAD BABOY

ANS HIRAP KASI ST INTO E INTICIP N'YONG ANG LAHAT NG HOME MY NIEMANCE ENG NEERING HISTEY CVALISTS AY TANGA. BADLIY AT BISAYA!





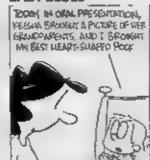
BY PM. JUNIOR AT ALAM N'YO BA NA MAS MAGALING PANG MAG INGCLES AND MOA BISAYA KESA SA MOA TAGALOS ?? MAG O'NGA SI ANNABELLE RAMA DIBA?

GARFIELD



BY M DAVIS ATE ALL THE AND THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS GHOSTS MALLOWS ?!

BABY BLUES





BY ERRY SCOTT PLOID CAN YOU OUTDO SOMEONE IN ASHLEY'S CASE, YOU COULD BRING WHO IS SHAPING PERSONAL PEAGURES WITH HER FRIENDS? IN YOUR FAMILING COLLECTION OF OPIGINAL PICASSOS

ENTHER

Nous I CANT

ATOMO AND WEBOY

IF YOU'RE JUST A BULLY-IN-TRAINING, WHEN WILL YOU BEcome an authentic A CERTIFICATE. BULLY?

I HAVE to PASS A Major test, and WHEN I DO, I'LL GET

SO ONCE YOU'RE A fully certified BULLY, WHAT'S NEXT?

BY LYRA GARCELLANO WHAT'S NEXT IS I RUN FOR PUBLIC OFFICE

TO BE CONTINUED

LOVEKNOTS

ANAKA

TODOS LOS SANTOS NA NAMAN, HWAE NA LANE SILANE PARES BIBISTAHIN DA HAMAH BUMESTA NOTE MAS TAMO NG ATING MGA KAMAG-ENJOY PA KING ... KNDK 00

BY ELIZABETH CHIONGLO TAYO NA LANG ANG BIBISITA SA KANKA! KAN POY

KIKO MACHINE



NI FOOTIMATE ' MAHA...
TALAGANG PINAGHANDA PA
KO NG MIONIGHT SMACK! AWW NAKAKA TOUCH TALAGA MGA SMALL THINGS NA GANITO PAMPASIGLA SA BUHAN,

BY MANIX ABRERA LANGTA SARV MA E SABI NA ME DUISUDE DITO SA KUMRTONG TO E TIN'AN MO YUNG MALAY



BEN



S OF THE

MY WHOLE BYY HAD TO LOOK IN TWO OR THREE DIFFERENT STORES

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DAILYEROSSWORD

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- 14 Mountain ridge 15 Send out 16 Locality 17 1983 W S
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- 22 Mach+ plane 25 Cavity , 26 Alaska's first
- governor 27 1987 W.S. winners and losers.
- 32 Macabre 33 Matures 34 Consume
- 38 Volcano near Manila 37 Title holder
- 39 Icicle hangout 40 RR stop 41 Raced
- 42 Flery felony 43 1977 W S. winners and losers.

5 Reddivism

8 Old Madrid

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7 Diamond

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8 Govt med.

10 Ore of lead

12 Orange cover

22 Editor's marks

24 Albanian capital

29 Ayn and Saffy

30 Car deals for

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9 More perrunous

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- 65 Getz and Lee DOWN __ Paulo, Brazil
- 2 Defensive hockey great 3 Circle of **howers**
- 4 Tlny power unit

- By Philip J. Anderson 1931/67 Portland, OR
 - Tuesday's Puzzie Botyed HAWG 2 1 A IGHTMYFIRE OTC I O T A BATHE A NU STEALER INDECENTESAL POOLE GAIT AGES SSWISPECTER HAH OHNOGARIE OUTDO WNTRAINSET I MITATE ALLS SCHEENSAVER DELH SUPINE
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 - 44 Caught red handed
 - 45 Lady in distress 46 Genesis: abbr.
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 - 50 Carson's

 - 51 Raison d__
- 56 Charged
- - 59 Soon-to-be
- 52 Reedy 53 Play opener 54 Brewer's kilm

ONSETS

- particle 57 Actress Long 58 Sawbuck

hard to know what you really trant to achieve at work. You feel spread too thin. Now you might be able to concentrate your forces more efficiently



WAS SPENT SEARCHING FOR THESE THONGS



TALE TRACES OF HOROSCOPE

YOU BORN YOUAY. You're extremely observant. You miss very little that is going on around you. You re an excellent source of information, either due to your next wonderful research abilities or your personal observations. You're extremely persevering and determined! Nevertheless, you like to be popular and accepted by others. (You try hard to please.) Your year ahead is wonderfully social and pleasing. Enjoy¹

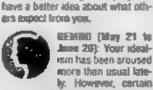
Birthdate of: Jane Pauloy, TV anchor, Kinky Friedman, sunger/author, Deigre Hall, actress.



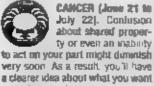
ARIES (March 21 to April 19): Some fund of confusion with tnends and groups might start to clear upnow. As this happens, you'll have a better idea about your own future

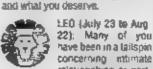
> YAURUS (April 29 to May 20): it's been difficult trying to second-guess bosses, parents, teachers and figures for some time.

However, starting today, you'll



Jame 281: Your idealism has been aroused more than usual lately. However, certain things might have been fuzzy or unclear. Now you'll get a better handle on things.





concerning intimate relationships or partnerships lately. You've found yourself second-guessing everything. sense of going forward now. Yay! Starting today, you'll have a clearer vision of things.





LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Dct 22): Creative projects and also ronantic relationships have been confusing and even disappointing lately. Fear not. Things are going to become clearer



Nov. 21). Everyttung that has been fuzzy or unsure in your home and domestic life might find a firmer looting as of today. At least you have a more realistic idea of what you can





way, Fenally I

AGUARIUS (Jan. 29 to Feb 18) You'll start to feet increasing con-Æ hdence in your ability to be productive and affective in your world. There's a

come together in a more concrete

PISCES (Feb 19 to March 2B): Your ruler, Neptune, has been goand "backward" since May of this year. Today it begins to go "forward" (in rela-Bon to planet Earth). This makes you feel stronger and more confi-

CONCERTIS SU DOKU

Conceptis SudoKu

By Dave Green



Difficulty Level **

HOW TO PLAY SU DOKU

Fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9.

Tips and program at www.sudoku.com

Answer to previous puzzle

0/31

2 6 3 8 9 9 7 283 6 4 5 9 5 6 8 3 4 2 9 6 3 8 5 3 8 7 5 2 4 6 3 5 9 4 8 1 6 2 6 2 9 8 3 5 á. 8 9 5 1 7 6 2 4 3 5 2 6 8,1 9 4

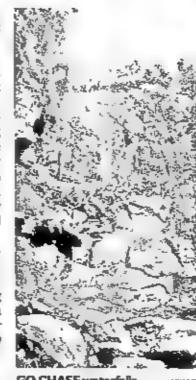
LIFESTYLE

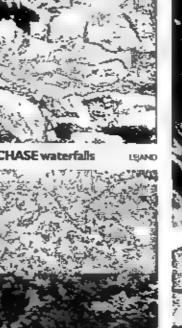
Wet and kind of wild

IT'S NOT JUST WAKEBOARDmg. There are many ways to get wet in CamSur. You can visit different waterfalis—Tumaguiti, Kawa Kawa and Bulalacao Falls. To get there, there's a trek of sorts, which came as a surprise, especially to those of us wearing jeans and leather shoes. There are tree trunks to chimb over and giant rocks to balance on but once you reach the falls, you realize the view is totally worth all the shpping and stumbling. If you want total relax-

If you want total relaxation—and no physical exertion—visit the hot springs.

There are pools with varying depths and temperature from which in choose. We went for the hottest one, of course—29 degrees.













THE HOT springs



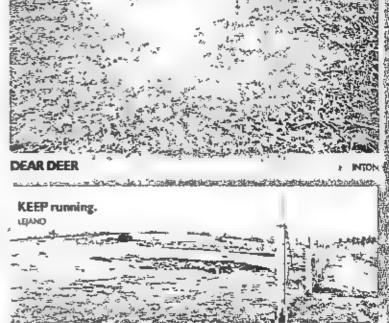
THERE ARE HUNDREDS AND hundreds of deer at the deer farm. They are mostly, Australian deer—Blackbuck Antelope, Fallow Deer, Chital Deer, Red Deer and Elk. You are fascinated, you want to get

You are fascinated, you want to get close to them. You chase after them but they are elusive. They run away from you and you can never catch up. You rack your brain for ways to tell them that you mean them no harm, that you just want to take their photo. But because you don't speak deer, you soon admit defeat.

You are lucky, though, that Chokoy is there. He is used to people—he likes them, actually. He sits quietly, lets you pet him and he actually poses for photos.

But you admit that even the deerchasing part was fun. There's nothing like running and trying to avoid stepping on deer poop on your way to make you feel like a kid again.

Visit the Deer Farm in Sta. Cruz, Ocampo.



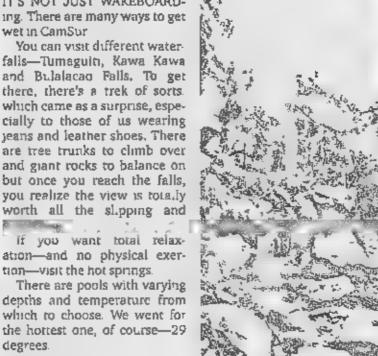


Wet and kind of wild

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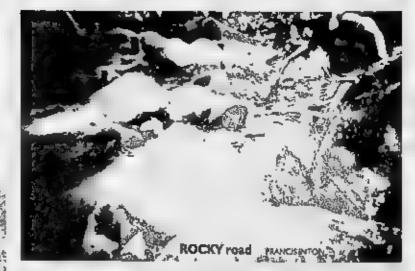
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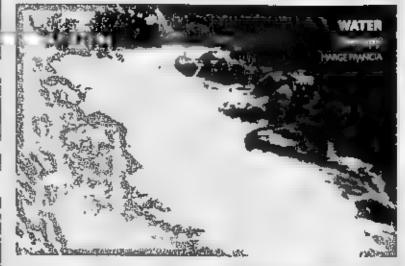
There are pools with varying depths and temperature from which to choose. We went for the hortest one, of course-29 degrees.

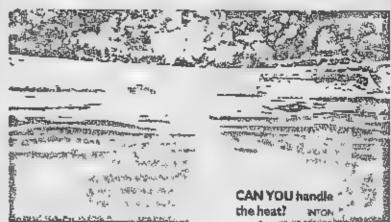


GO CHASE waterfalls











THE HOT springs

DAYDREAMING deer



ENTRANCE to the deer farm



6 Mode Equalizer

Karaoke Function

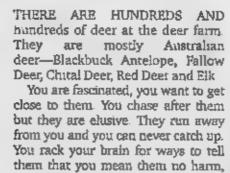
Dolby Digital

FB162

DivX

- USB Plus

CHOKOY, the friendly deer



that you just want to take their photo But because you don't speak deer, you soon admit defeat. You are lucky, though, that Chokoy is there. He is used to people-he likes them, actually. He sits quietly, lets you pet him and he actu-

ally poses for photos. But you admit that even the deerchasing part was fun. There's nothing like running and trying to avoid stepping on deer poop on your way to make you feel like a kid again.

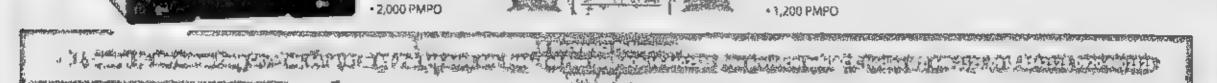
Visit the Deer Farm in Sta. Cruz, Ocampo.



KEEP running







MDD62

USB Plus

Divx

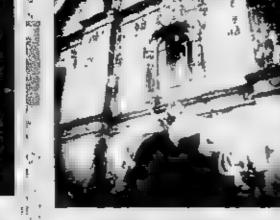
Dolby Digital

6 Mode Equalizer

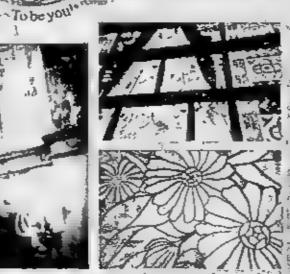
Karaoke Function



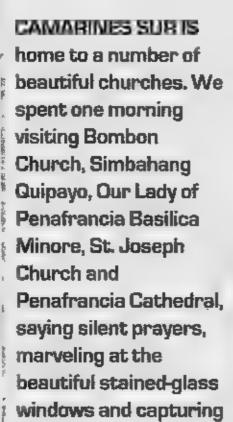
Kitkat Rodrigo



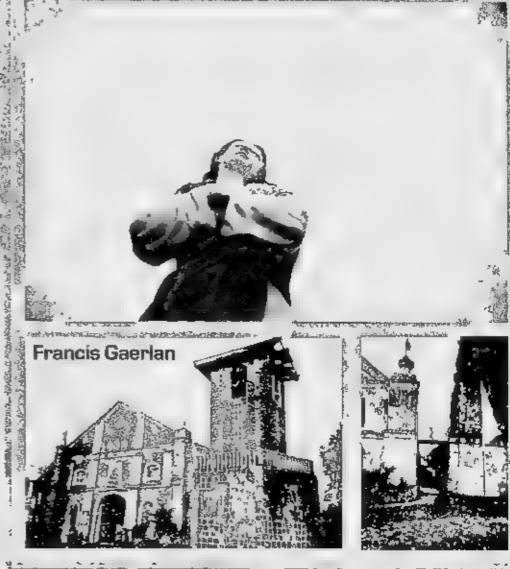
Francis Inton



Holly ignoulined



moments both holy and not—a nervous bride getting ready for her vows, old women sitting quietly, children lighting candles, people queuing up for blessings.



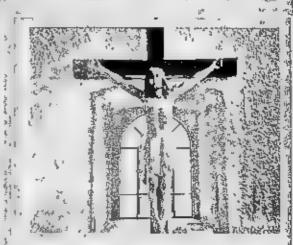


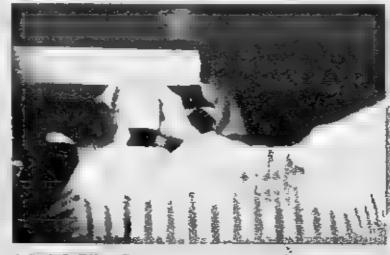
Melanie Vicente









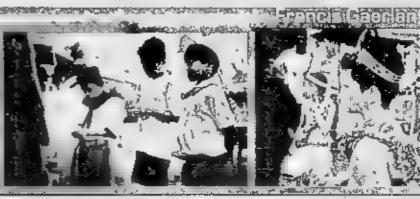








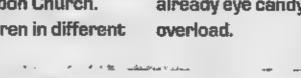




forecast

EVERY TRIP
throws surprises
your way.
As we made our way
from one church to
another, a colorful
sight greeted us near
Bombon Church.
Children in different

costumes, parents
and teachers bustling
about, vendors
peddling their wares.
It wasn't the fiesta
yet, they were only
preparing, but it was
already eye candy
overload.

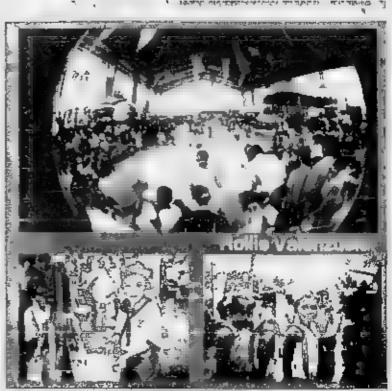








Maryerrancia





ame feedback: Inquirer ent name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) and 263 (Smart) or email us at entertainment@inquirer.com.ph

CHERRY Pie Pleache plays surrogate mom to Kier Segundo in a drama that focuses on the state of foster care in the Philippines,

Editor Emmie G. Velarde

A real, crude 'Foster Child'

By Gerry Plaza Inquirennet

A POWERFUL STORY, COMPELLING PERformances, unforgettable characters.

The world took notice of "Foster Child," Inland it seemed the accolades would continue. With several international awards, the film's shining moment came in the 2007 Cannes Film Festival, where it received a near 15-minute standing ovation during the Directors' Fortnight in May.

Amid the acclaim, the people behind "Foster Child" revealed that the crude, "real-time" approach was what gave the film its appeal.

"Pitted against films from the First World, it really stands out kast ibang-tba," producer Robbie Tan said after a special screening of "Foster Child" at the Inquirer multi-purpose room. "They appreciate it because they find it authentic and they find it a bit crude. They find it really Third World. That's why it's very appealing to them."

Directed by Brillante Mendoza, written by Ralston Jover, and starring Cherry Pie Picache, Jiro Manio, Eugene Domingo, Dan Alvaro and Alwyn Uytingco, "Foster Child" won the Special Jury Prize in the Eurasia International Film Festival in Kazakhstan in September.

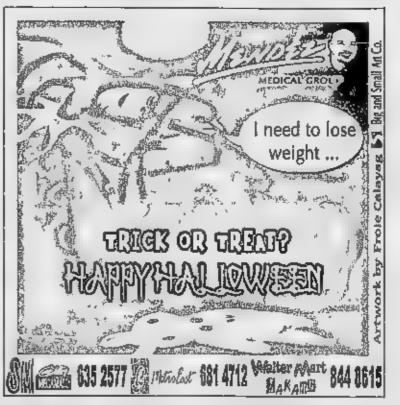
"The narrative is not on the ego or the character, but on the place, the phenomenon. This is the story of fostering, not the story of Cherry Ple (who plays the lead character Thelma). Sinuportahan lang ng direksyon na huwag masyadong mag-close up (sa character), which is the convention in mainstream cinema kası very character

The film focused on the daily travails of a poor family, subsidized by a nongovernment organization, in fostering an orphan child awaiting legal adoption.

"Maikli lang yung time frame, so hindi actor oriented sila," the film's project con- one year or 10 years, one day lang, three sultant and noted screenwriter Armando days lang," Lao explained. "So kino-chroni-







In tune with life's music

revolutions start at the riff of the guitar, the crash of a cymbal or the pounding lifestyle. It became of the bass.



It is in the music scene where changes. With the emergence of music trends. find that the Nokia Nseries appeals to. A filmmaker and actor as well his are instantly felt and celebrated. Here, such as MTV, music has evolved to an artist like Sitti - for whom choice of the Nacrics is

become more of a a much bigger part of daily life and a more powerful driving force in our society



shaire

And for generations of music lovers and enthusiasts, something as creatively complex and mysteriously moving as music is still best experienced first-hand.

Leading her own quiet renaissance, Navarro brought singer Sith back the sexy rhythms of

Bossa Nova but with whole lots of charm. Her

all music formats," she says, "When you're busy, that's when the Nacries comes to the rescue. It

innovation means updating, and not based on his demand for disregarding, the past. "I listen to technology that can more music now and I don't limit keep up with him myself to only Bossa Nova," she says, He recognizes "I listen to all kind of music ,I've that it's taken quite a liking to classical music, essential as but different kinds of music help me a tool these in my performances, on how to days, but he approach a song."

"Bossa Nova though, never fails to in tune with me." he says relax me," says Sitti, "Singing's not only a form of self-expression for me, In short, it's got to keep up but also prayer,"

"I'm almost always on the go," sho Marc, "It fits well with the kind says, "The Nseries phone makes music accessible anytime. I can just put in without much noise whatever music or songs that I want. So, what makes Nokia Nseries and voila! I'm all set and ready to go."

presence in a music. The Nseries' all-in-one capability is scene mostly dominated a big plus for Sitti, "It has a huge For Sitti, it's all she needs in a single by loud rock is nothing less memory, it's like an mp3 phone than a breath of fresh air But already!" she says. "It's easily Sith's no revivalist - her music managed, plus four music formats are "It's mobile technology for the new is one that sounds as modern acceptable! When you're busy and generation," says Marc as ever. "I love how it accepts don't have the time to convert music to acceptable formats, that's when the For today's creative individual Nseries comes to the rescue!"

has a huge memory, too." For Kjwan frontman Marc Abaya, multimedia device that features rock and roll is about bringing a sense It isn't of danger to the performance. A surprising to passionate and tireless performer, he

is undoubtedly one of his generation's technology that's perfectly in tune to his singing -- an attitude that isn't confined to the stage.

most dynamic singers who make it a with the demanding and dynamic point to bring raw emotion and attitude hisestyle of the mobile generation.

doesn't agree that one should adjust their lives to it. "It has to be

"The Nseries is just perfect "says. of life I have, just like my PC

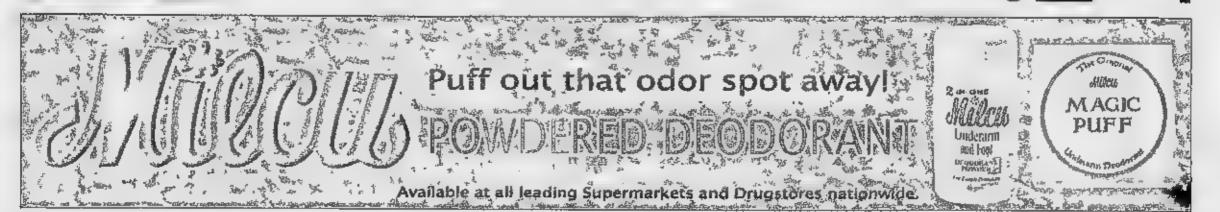
the preferred mobile technology of these music personalities?

phone. "It makes my life easier"

whether a musician or a music fanthe Nokia Nseries is the all-in-one

Marc Abaya of Kjwan





8 H O W I N G

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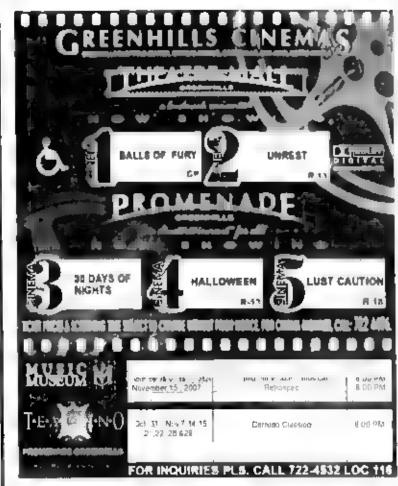
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ATLANTA-Part of a set being built for a show featuring R&B singer Akon collapsed at Emory University in Atlanta, inparing three workers. Thursday's show was canceled. Akon is scheduled to perform in Manila on Nov. 29.

DID You Know...

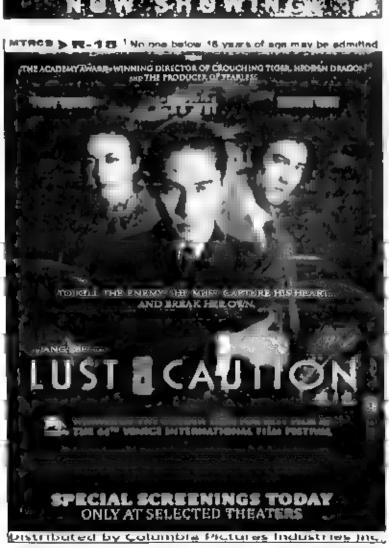
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MOVIES & SCHEDULES SUBJECT TO GHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE



Ultimate Scare this Halloween!





ENTERT Veter

IN "MR. WOODCOCK," JOHN FARLEY'S worst nightmare is actualized when his sadistic gym teacher, the comedy movie's title character, beds and threatens to wed his mother (Susan Sarandon). Parley, played in adulthood by Sean William

郵馬P馬T MAG-ENJOY.

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他與PAT KALIMUTAN ANG PROBLEMA.

Scott, is so horrified at the prospect that self-her he moves heaven, earth and everything in between to break up the unacceptable

But, just like in his traumatic childhood, he proves to be no match for the

supremely selfconfident Woodcock (Billy Bob Thornton), who treats John as badly as when he was a pudgy adolescent.

This really rankles in John's adult psyche, because he's become famous as motivator who's written a

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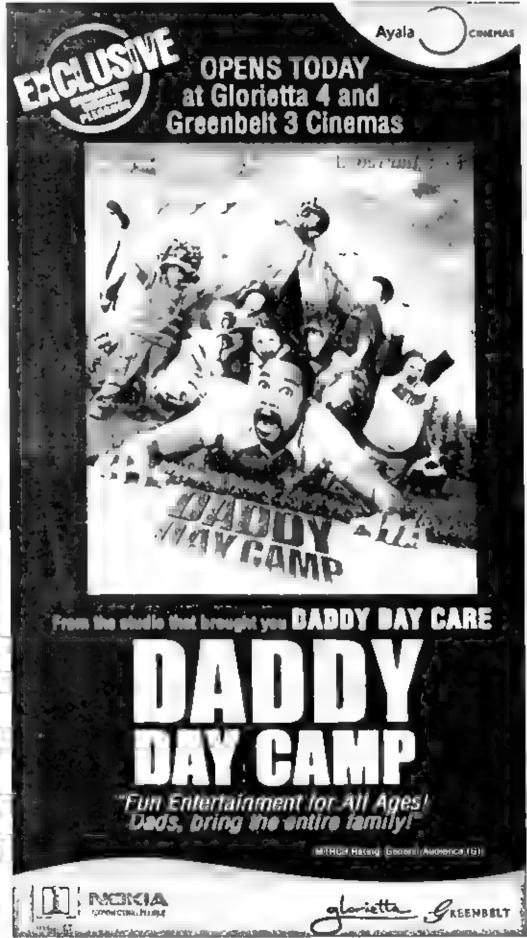
cle talaga yung day.or w life of the character Nga bumagal man siya, risk genre ' There were indeed I

ging scenes in the fum b vided a far more author tion of the experience "We feel that this app

accommodates a Filipa ence, sa Filipino rea added According to Tan the

makers adopt the less-pt al-time approach, the chances of making it b cinema. "Our filmmakers sho

making films that are ve cally polished. Ang si



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SHOWING

an stars run circles around young film lead

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now, here he is, made less and pathetic and g again by his nasty, old , who's even seduced n into falling madly in ի հառլ

hn devices a plot to get ds on Mr Woodcock. some initial successes, Nestor U. Torre r, his mother still refus-

irns important lessons that enable really grow up (at long last) ally, they all learn that you can't mybody else other than yourself problems or problematic situa

life. That's a good lesson to learn,

properly appreciative for the psy-

ve her boyfriend up—until every-

On the minus side, Scott VIEWFINDER turns out to be a poor choice as this movie's protagonist, because he isn't a., that believable as a famous psychic motivator to millions-and because he's roundiy upstaged by both Sarandon and Thornton.

chic reorientation.

Sarandon acts circles around her film son just by being true to her character, no frills. For his part, Thornton is a consistently strong film actor, whose big-screen characterizations through the

years have been idiosyncratic. His portrayal of Mr. Woodcock is no exception. With a few telling strokes, he creates this neo-Nazi, über-psychologica.

torturer who

Unfortunately, aside from these sould lead performances, the movie has little to offer by way of genuinely comedic wit and creativity. Its jokes tend to be of the predictably randy sort, and John's efforts to get back at his old tormentor are pathetic instead of inventive.

That's too bad, because the other "victims" in the audience are effectively deprived of the catharsis they so badly need to get over their childhood traumas, and get back at their tormentors. Well, that's life-on the movie screen and off

The production would have resonated better with viewers if it had paid more attention to the "revenge"

it could have allowed its young protagonist to score some decisive points in his ongoing physical and psychological "war" with Mr. Woodcock.

Instead, he keeps retaliating in weak ings-and grow up.

dreds of helpiess and hapless youths-for aspects of its plot and theme. Even better, and predictable ways, so his defeat is assured It's only when his mother reveals how much he's hurt her with his petty ploys that Farley finally realizes that he's got to stop thinking only of his feel-



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ter Child": (from left) producer Robble Tan, and project consultant Armando Lao RUDY ESPERAS

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foreign Hindi nagugustuhan yung ganoong approach sa abroad," Tan pointed out ing, drag-

Child" maintains its winning streak in international festivals, in which Philippine independent films are

likula niya iko compare o i-juxta likula. Yun ang hinahanap nila nsibilities elt "

may pagka-First World. Masyadong

Lao also hinted why "Foster

always in demand "Sabi nga m Dante (d.rector Br.llante Mendoza) kung ang pepose sa thang mga entries, mukhang baswa ang pelikula niya, Eh bakit nanalo? Yung iba hindi nanalo pero technically polished Kasi sa content At saka, nakikita yung Philippines sa pe-

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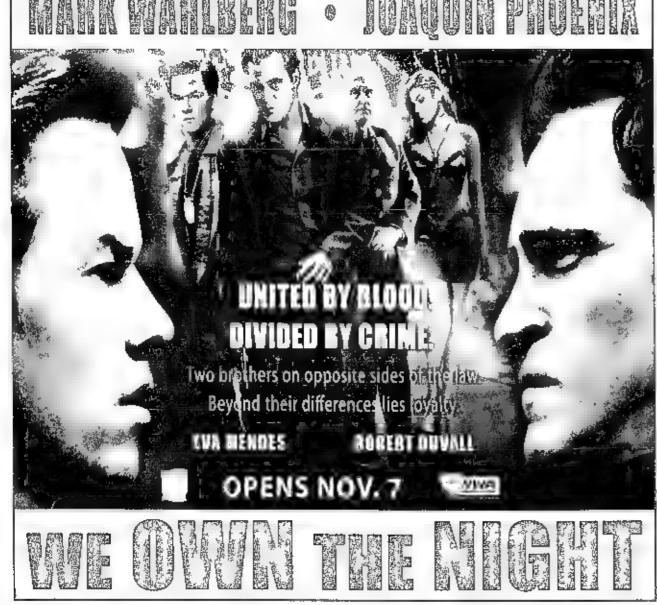
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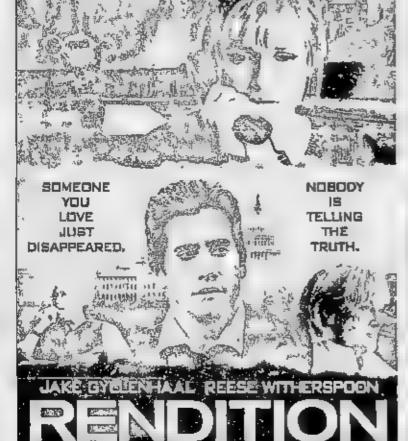
Hide and Seek

Stars Eric Quizon, Jean Garcia, Alessandra de Rossi, Ryan Eigenmann

Directed by Rahyan Carlos To escape from controversies, a university professor (Quizon) takes his family to a faraway rest house that turns out to be the home of restless spirits. De Rossi, who previously appeared in the Singaporean thriller "The



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Maid," says she enjoys playing a ghost. In my past movies, I was the one being scared. This time, I'm the one doing the spooking "Director Carlos recalls that her "prosthetics took one hour to put on."

30 Days of Night

Stars Josh Hartnett, Melissa George, Ben Foster, Danny

Directed by David Slade



In this scream fest based on the graphic novel by Steve Niles and Ben Templesmith, vampires invade the small town of Barrow, Alaska, where the sun doesn't rise for a month. Pete Vonder Haar of Film Threat opines: "The massacre ... catchea us off guard." Joshua Tyler of Cinemablend.com thinks it's "intense and gripping." Gary Thompson of Philadelphia Dai-



as inventive as [its] Arctic Circle premise."

Halloween

Stars Malcoim McDowell, William Forsythe, Daeg Faerch, Sheri Moon

Directed by Rob Zombie In this "reimagining" of John Carpenter's 1978 slasher pic, the focus is on homicidal maniac Mike Myers. Josh Bell of Las Vegas Weekly comments that the remake "falls short of the original's legacy." Ken Fox of TV Guide asserts that Zombie "succeeds admirably, mostly by bringing his own style." Ethan Alter of Film Journal Internaly News concurs: "The ending is tional disagrees: "As well-made



as it is, it disappoints ... just a footnote to another film's lega-

Daddy Day Camp

Stars Cuba Gooding Jr., Phil Ryerson, Richard Grant, Tamaia Jones

Directed by Fred Savage

This sequel to Eddse Murphy's 2003 comedy is directed by former child star Savage of "The Wonder Years" fame. John Anderson of Variety points out that this flick's humor mainly *revolves around bodily functions and feral children." Ty Burr of Boston Globe agrees: "Innocuous amusement for 5 to 8 year-olds or other people stuck in the anal stage of development.*

Balls of Fury

Stars Dan Fogler, Christopher Walken, George Lopez, Maggie Q

Directed by Robert Ben Garant

A frustrated athlete (Pogler) is recruited by the PBI to infiltrate an illegal underground table-tennis tournament. Roger Ebert of Chicago Sun-Times writes: "If you're watching [this movie], you obviously didn't have anything better to do." Claudia Puig of USA Today calls it an "uninspired and sopho-moric satire." Sheri Linden of The Hollywood Reporter relates: "Ping-pong balls (and laughs] fly fast and furious ... in

this willfully dumb [spoof] "





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Stars shine in Kapuso's Masskara Weekend

DOLLY

GMA 7 STARS MARIAN RIVERA, Dingdong Dantes, Dennis Trillo, Paolo Balfesteros and Pauleen Luna conquered Bacolod during the Kapuso Masskara Weekend. Masskara means a mass of faces.

The Kapuso mall show truly lived up to what the festival means. A sea of people was in SM Bacolod to catch a glimpse of their fave GMA celebs-a sure sign that "Marimar" and "Zaido" elso reign supreme in the "City of Smiles." Parokya nı Edgar also joined the revelry.

Dennis was evasive when asked about his love child with Carlene Aguilar. Guess he wants to relish his fatherhood joys in private for now,

Paolo told me he has no qualms that his gay role as Yda, the cross-dressing villam in "Zaido," would all the more make people question his gender. Who cares? As long as he turns in a convincing perfor-

I asked Pauleen, who's niming 19 Gatchalian will give her a ring on her from fashion to passion.

birthday, just like what her ex-BF Marvin Agustin did on her debut. "It's too soon for him to give me a ring but 'di ko tatanggihan if he does," she said, giggling.

I had fun meeting the cool DJs of Redio GMA 107.1 Campus Ayos, which is the No. 1 station in Inasal Country. They are Papa Dino (Ding Vasquez), Papa Cholo a.k.a. Lady C (Rey Pinongan), Papa Bojo (Nino Ganzon), Papa Franco (Jimmer Monserate), Papa Paolo (Nilo Gromea)

and Papa Gio (Rally Vargas). Their unified concept of all being "Papables" on the air endears them to their listeners.

Take for instance Papa Dino's "Talk to Papa" (Monday to Saturday, 1-3 p.m.), an interactive show, and Lady C's "What! Duh! Eww" (Saturday 8-11 p.m.), in which Papa Cholo pretends he's gay as he soon, if her BF Mayor Sherwin dishes out no-nonsense advice ranging

7s superb team Ramir Orteza, Barbette Atlenza. WOOD Dorski Granada and Oliver Amoroso, my fun colleagues Ian Pariñas of People's Torate, Eugene Asia of People's Journal, Walden Belen of Manila Bullenn,

Dolly Anne Carvajal

Mistaken identity?

The plot thickens in the Piolo-Sam-Lolit brouhahe. Could it have been a case of mistaken identity?

such a denghtful Bacolod

your company beats all the

delicacies in Sugarland com-

Modes-turned-actor James Uy has a striking resemblance to Sam Milby and both of them are Amboys, Insiders insist that most likely, he was the one 'Tita Lolit

Daghang salamat to GMA spotted with Piolo Pascual in Sofitel.

Since James is a Star Magic talent (he's in "Lovespell"), Tita Lolit, who's from GMA, is probably not familiar with him. James happens to be a good friend of Piolo, just like Sam.

A lady fotog was banned from the AS-Nathalie Tomada of Free-AP '07 set last Sunday. She insisted on enman Cebu and Cedelf Tupas tering the premises without an ID and of Visayan Daily News for had a heated argument with the guard.

She claims that "labas pasok siya sa weekend. The sweetness of ABS" so no need for an ID. According to the show's makeup artist, the fotog made Kim Chui cry when she took shots of her while she was dressing up and then had the audacity to ask money from Kim in exchange for the pics.

> Fotogs like that ought to be out of the picture for good.

Guess who this young show bizcouple is. Clue: The two are co-STARS/G3

Actress is amazed by Batanes, Taiwanese star Ken Zhu and the craft of acting

By Bayani San Diego Jr. Photo courtesy of Ignite Media and Roger Robles

BASCO, BATANES-TRAVELING FROM Toronto to Batanes moved actress Iza Calzado to declare: "I love my job!"

She asserts that she is "thankful" for the experience of working on two "totally different" sets: the Hollywood thriller "The Echo" in Canada, and the local drama "Batanes" in the country's northernmost island-province.

"In Toronto, we worked in a studio. Here, we're surrounded by nature," she tells Inquirer Entertainment on the beachside set of "Batanes."

She's "in awe" of the island and its

"We shot near a church and, when I in the interest of the interes stars. I naven't experienced that kind of star-gazing in any of the heaches I've visited in the past. It was as if the stars

When they traveled to neighboring Sabtang island, their flimsy boat was met with five-meter ocean waves.

"It makes you realize just how powerful nature is," she quips.

She'll make sure to recommend Batanes to her "Echo" co-stars Jesse Bradford, Amelia Warner, Carlos Leon and Kevin Durand.

"I feel honored that I get to share with foreigners how beautiful our country and people are," she explains. "It's so safe in Batanes. I jog every day on my own. Once, I even jogged at night."

She also got to tackle two divergent acting styles in the two movies.

While in "Echo," she pushed herself to the limit as a battered wife, she got to take it easy as a troubled widow in "Batanes."

"I like the pacing in this movie," she says. "It's very subtle. I'm not so keen on overly dramatic scenes. I prefer a sumple, quiet acting style."

She gives credit to her "Batanes" directors Adolf Aux and Dave Hukom for guiding her every step of the way. "Adolf focuses on me. Dave is also very technical and discriminating."

She also got to work with world-famous leading men on the two films: Bradford in "Echo" and Taiwanese pop superstar Ken Zhu in "Batanes."

"My first realization is that in spite of our differences, in terms of race and culture, people are just the same. We are all just actors. It all boils down to how we work and how we treat people."

She says that Ken is a kidder.

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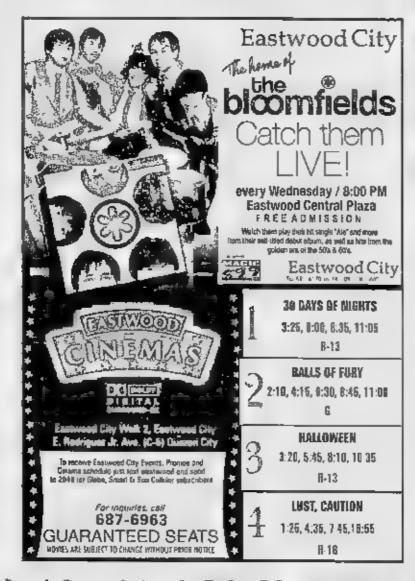
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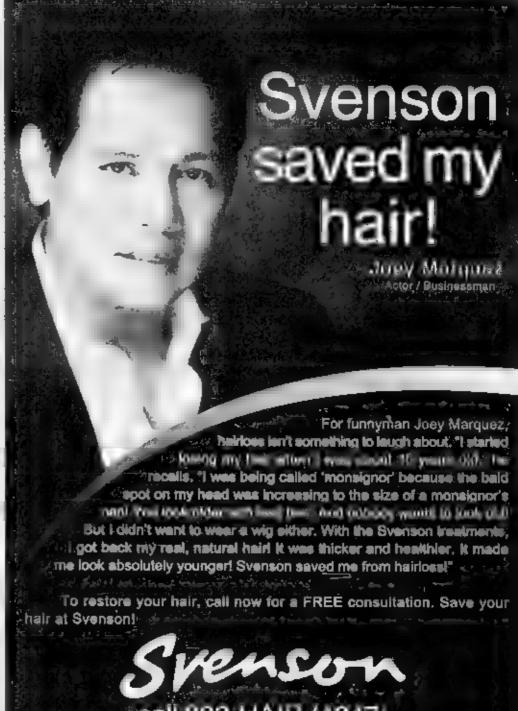
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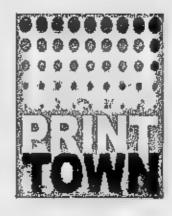
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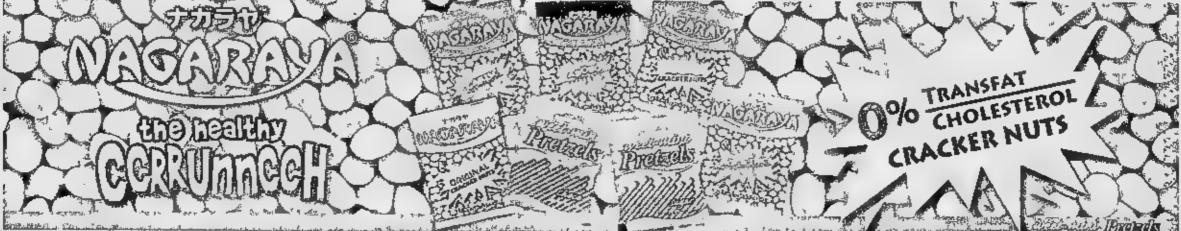


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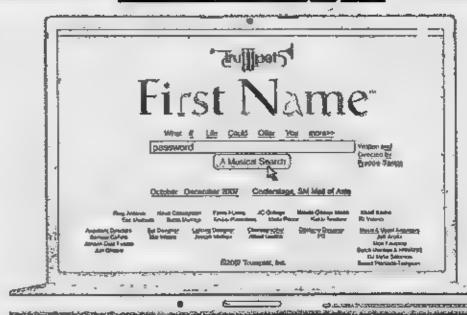
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THIDE & SEEK FBUTTERFLY ON A WHEEL ITHE SEEKER THE DARK IS RISING SM CITY BACOLOB (034) 708 1010 PRESIDENT EVIL 3

2SHOOT 6M' UP STAROUST THIDE AND SEEK

SCHEDULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHARGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON MOVIE LISTING MITCH RATING SCREENING SCHEDULES AND THE LATEST HAPPENINGS AT EMIGINEMA

"When we arrived

from Sabtang, we

were greeted by

people carrying a

'Miss Iza and com-

pany, we love you.""

Iza was embar-

rassed. "It was as if I

was more popular

than Ken when, in

fact, he is an Asian

superstar. He kept

teasing me about

describes his co-star.

"It's a pleasure

working with her. We have a lot of fun

A tai chi world

champion, Ken says that he's teaching

Iza a few moves. "In

this movie, I speak Mandarin; while she, in Filipino. So we mostly commun.cate through body

In that sense, tai chi he.ped them bridge the language gap.
"Luckily, Iza is a good actress. She's giving me a lot of support," Ken tells

"Tax chi is like a dance," she notes. "He says it helps h.m connect with

Once, in the middle of a tai ch. session, Ken complimented Iza "He said that I have the gift. It meant so much to me because I see him not as an F4 guy, the star of 'Meteor Garden, but as a tai

on the set."

language."

the INQUIRER.

co-stars."

"Iza's cool," Ken

sign:

Iza.

From page G1

cardboard

1t.**

stars in a teleserye.

CINE EUROPA

ies and schedules are subject to change without prior notice

Catch the Cineplex Special

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Enjoy exciting privileges, rewards and discounts. Apply at the Shang Cineplex ticket counters. Log-on to www.shangcineplax.com or call 633-4736 for details

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MARIAN Rivera and Dingdong Dantes at the Masskara. Weekend in Bacolod

minson baliktad pa suot nila!" Abhi To be young, restless and shameless!

New band Southwind is a new all-male band discovered by composer Jimmy Antiporda. Its members are Daniel, Shan, Sam and Japhet.

Stars shine . . .

on them said, "Grabel Wola silong

putawod! When they are in heat, they

would do it in the actor's van. Natutawa

na lang kama sa set because we see the

van shaking and when they come out,

A production member who squealed native blended with a unique style.

"Pagbigyan."

E-mail wateringholeshangrila@yahoo.com.

From page G1

Their music is a fusion of pop-alter-

Check out its debut album "On Solid

Ground" (produced by Brown Cow En-

tertainment, distributed by Universal

Records). It features 10 original songs

including "Freeway" "Run Girl" and

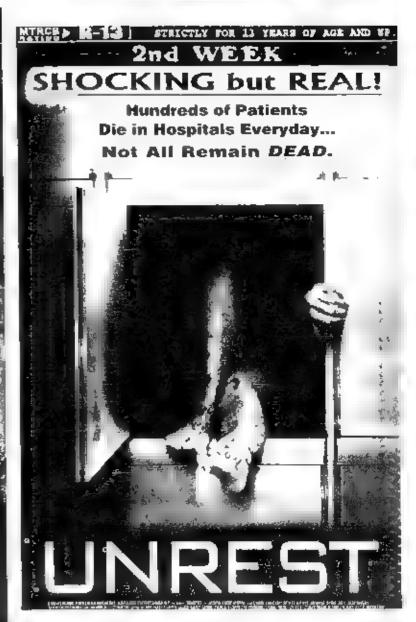
one. His track record in the music in-

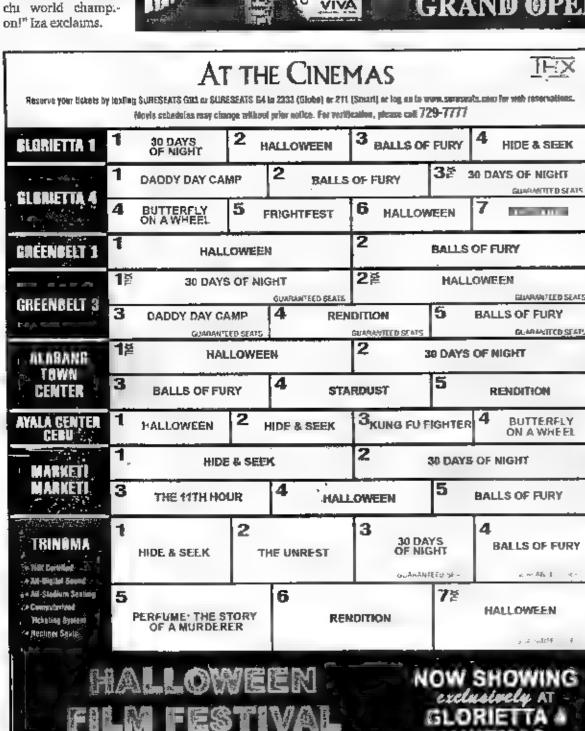
dustry is enough guarantee that all the

tracks in Southwind's album will blow

Jimmy knows talent when he hears







THE MAN WHO KNEW

TOO MUCH 😂 💎 💉

they wanted to know about

nefem territe disease men that

u gayaasisatiga gigt. When their yen

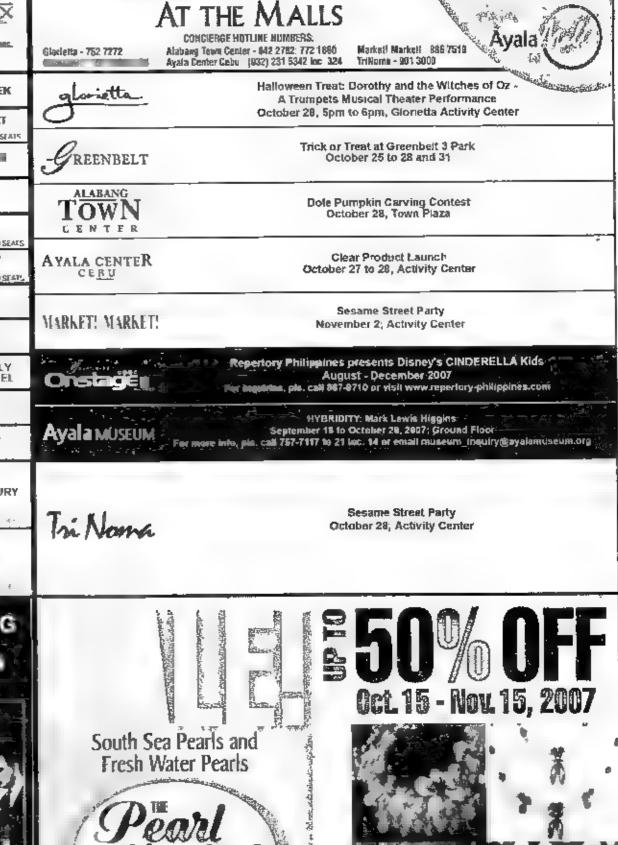
Too Muce

watch Halloween film fertival 'S GET SPECIAL TREATS FROM

Prento Periori October 26 to Preventeer 4, 200

Starring: James Stewart & Coris Cay

raing Sobadajoo; 12:20 psz. 1:76 # 10:30 u TRCB Arting: Parentel Beldimon 10





CINEMAS

NEXT ATTRACTION

John Carporter's no "MLLAGE OF THE DAMBER,

SHADOW OF A DOUBT

al lifter "For Heavy Winter Mardery"

WF a

Starring: Torosa Wright

A Joseph Coller





d Roor, Got Market!

-ER 5" MOR PERMIT NO. A2-438, SERIES OF ZOID







ROME'S Castel Sant'Angelo, originally a mausoleum for Roman Emperor Hadrian, was also the setting for the third act of Puccini's "Tosca." For the Audrey Hepburn fan, the movie "Roman Hollday" had a scene with her on barges on the river below.



THE BRITS are very participative, contrary to the snooty and conservative character they've been identified with. They don't mind doing silly stuff in the spirit of fun.



SWISS men like to dance onstage and boy, do they look furnry! Check out You Tube, type Giselle Sanchez, then click on Switzerland show. A fan downloaded my performance and the Swiss men looked funner than I was.



ITALIANS love beautiful, sexy women and won't mind if you're corny. Just wear a mini skirt or a revealing outlit, you're a hit!

The world in the eyes of Giselle

By Giselle Sanchez Contributor

I'M GLAD TO HAVE BEEN TO Rome, Barcelona, Malaga, Paris, Amsterdam, Antwerp, Brussels, Pisa, Florence, the United Kingdom, Benjing, Hong Kong and Switzerland to entertain homesick Filipinos.

But let me tell you, it's no indeed. laughing matter.

It takes a lot of research and preparation, especially since it's usually a buy-onetake one affair-Pinoys bring with them their Italian conservansm. boyfriends, Spanish wives,

and friends.

So how do I please an international crowd aside from doing my routine in English? I make a list of important aspects to be observed in my performance. Of course, this list was only written after my performance in that country. Oh boy! Experience is the best teacher

Performing in other countries is a piece of cake, for as long as you can sacrifice comic material for audience sensitivity, cultural and racial taboos, and religious

Here are some of my photos British and Swiss husbands from my European adventure.





THE FAVORITE character I love portraying in another country is the Filipina danisel in distress. There will always be Filipinos ready to help out when you're alone. I experienced this when I took a train by myself to Tuscany and in the center of Italy, I found the city of Pisa. Just a few minutes of lounging in the station, I met some Filipinos who took me to the Leaning Tower of Pisa.



OUR POCKETS were not cut out for the life of the rich and famous. Nevertheless, my husband Emil and I had a great time in Amsterdam. Our trip there was composed of windmill sightseeing and a visit to the Van Gogh museum.

LIMMATSCHIFFS (boats) behind me on Lake Zurich. These vessels are flat enough to pass under the bridges of the Limmat river, which ends in the lake. The pointed tower is the Fraumunster church.

IN THE main shopping street of Antwerpen is the Hand of the Grant, Legend has it that a terrible giant, Drucon Antigoon, cut off the hands of sailors of the river Scheldt whenever they refuse. to pay the toll. A Roman soldier, Silvus Brabo, killed the giant by cutting off its hand and throwing it away in the river. Hence, the name of the city Antwerpen: And meaning hand and

werpen meaning to



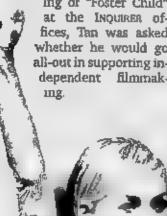
Robbie Tan's filmmaking legacy

By the Inquirer and Inquirer.net **Entertainment Staff**

IN A SURPRISING TURNaround, Robbie Tan, whose production outfit Seiko Films was previously identified with sex-oriented dramas and slapstick comedies, has signified his commitment to do more movies of a different kind

"Foster Child," which he bankrolled for P8 million, has been winning awards and getting distribution rights in the international film fest circuit.

After a special screening of "Foster Child" at the Inquirer offices, Tan was asked whether he would go all-out in supporting independent filmmakшġ.





siyempre pag nag-ma-mature ka na, you like to leave a legacy, parang si GMA. You have to think of certain films that will be more significant and will make a mark."

Don't flirt and not mean it

ROME-US actress Sharon Stone was in her element late Friday as the coaxed some 300,000 euros out of guests at a charity auction for AIDS research in

"Don't first with me and not mean it," she scolded one bidder at the gala auction for the American Foundation for AIDS Research.

"Romans, countrymen, lend me your wallets," she cajoled.

"Just \$50,000 will fund an independent grant for a scientist working on a new initiative," she said as she removed a necklace by British crown jeweler Garrard and offered it for

No to kung fu

HONG KONG-Jaycee Chan may be trying to move out of the shadow of his Hollywood action star father Jackie, but as SOOT as he slumps into his chair, the resemblance is unmistakable.

He says he is not interested learning

SHARON

boxing for self-defense, but the desire to be taken seriously is palpable.

RUSHES

Top of the Talk Shows

those who mussed last weekend's gabfests. (And why we are moved, if we are moved.)

Martin Jickam on numors that estranged wife Aiko Melendez is daring Bulacan municipal vice mayor Patrick Meneses:

"Ganoon? Well, mabuti para sa kanya."

Aiko on supposed constant date Patrick Meneses:

"Sana lang huwag tayo magspeculate and give me a break... to have fun with my

Much ado about nothing

Sunshine Dizon on former boyfriend Polo Ravales' remark that he would choose to win her back above all his previous girlfriends:

"It's starting to irritate me already because all of you are telling me that he's telling this, he's saying this pala, or whatsoever. But then he's not approaching me naman with anything. So I'm confused, I don't know if this is just a gimmick or whatsoever."

Polo on Sunshine's reaction. "Wala namang malisya doon sa sinagot ko eh. Bınıgyan lang ako ng tanong-kung sino raw sa kanila ang babalikan ko. Ayoko pa ngang sagutin nung una yan eh. Sabi ko, ayoko na...Actually, unang-una wala akong gustong balikan sa mga

His reply: "Siguro, Kasi kiing fii and only learned Thai ex ko eh. Hindi ko tuloy alam kung bakit siya nag-re-react in a negative way."

About art and the uni-

Snooky on her rift with Ai-Ai delas Alas after saying the latter is the "most plastic" person in show biz:

"I talked to one of her closest friends and explained how it happened, why I said that, and I was telling pa aga her friend that I'm sorry. I'm quite sorry kasi sometimes I can be too

honest for my OWD good. Now I've learned my lesson. Sabi ko nga, siguro sometimes you know I have humble w myself again. There are

still things that I bave to re-YASMIEN Kurdi fine... I've learned the

art of less talk, less mustakes." Ai-Ai on Snooky's claims:

"Let's love the universe. Seryosohin mo ba yon... Dapat hindi mo papatulan yung дапооп."

Yasmien Kurdi on her requisites before marching down the ausie:

"Dapat maayos muna ang lahat bago ikasal. Yung stable ba. Hindi ikaw yung bibili nung bahay kundi yung lalaki, kasi obligasyon niya yon. Kaya ka niyang buhayin. At yung mga pera mo, yun ang pang-shopping sa sarili mo. So dapat ganoon na muna." (Ganuuun?)

Marian Rivera reacting to reports that even her "Marimar" co-actors were starting intrigues against her

"Alam ko po na marami talagang darating na intraga sa akin, so ang ano ko lang po, maging matatag ako. Kilala ko yung sarili ko. Importante po sa akin yung mga taong mahal

Lolit apologizes

Lolit Solis on Sam Milby's demand for an apology and retraction over an item she wrote, claiming that Sam and

fellow actor

Piolo Pas-

cual had a

sweet mo-

ment to-

gether at a

hotel lob-

"Yung

apology sig-

uro madalı

Dahil kung

nasaktan

by:

sila, nagka-**SNOOKY Serna** JIM GLIMO PUNZALAH

roon kung anoanong balita, malisya na naano sa kinuwento ko. Kung dun dahil sa kinuwento ko, nagkaroon sila ng sleepless nights, okey sa akin. Sorry, I apologize. Pero, retraction, I will never do that. Kasi kung ano ang nakuta ko, yun lang talaga ang sinabi ko. Ang pagkakamali ko nga lang, bakit kunuwento ko pa yung nakita ko at nalagyan ng malisya."

Lolit on Sam's threat of court

"May lawyers sila, may lawyers din naman ako eh. Ibig kong sabihin, hindi ko ipaglalaban ang isang bagay na alam kong hindi ko kayang labanan.

Kung hindi ko sila nakita ng sarili kong mata, hindi ako magkakaroon ng ganuong lakas ng loob pero dahil ako mismo ang nakakita, malakas ang loob ko."

Yung nai-kwento ko, hindi akalain na magiging ganoong kalaki ang reaksyon na magkakaroon ng malisya. Lalagyan ng malisya ng ibang tao. Hindi ko akalain na dahil sa malisyang yon, sasakit ang loob ni Sam at ni Piolo."

Star Magic's reaction to Lour's article

"Tinatanong ng Star Magic ang publiko at sila na daw ang bahalang humusga. Sino nga ba ang nagpalaki ng uyung tto? Ito ba ay isang demolition job para sirain ang mga stars ng Star Magic no ang tanging interes lamang ay mag-entertain? Sino nga ba ang nakikinabang sa kasinungalingang ito? Mana- 1 natili na lang bang tahunik ang Star Magic habang may mga taong sumisira sa mga artistang kanilang pino-protektahan?

Danita vs Daisy

Danita Paner on the reason behind her leaving her mom Daisy Romualdez.

"Dı ko lang talaga kaya lahat ng nangyayari sa loob ng bahay. Verba: abuse talaga. Impiyerno. Sobrang implyerno."

Daisy's reaction:

"Siya ang may diperensiya, hindi ako... Pag sınabı niyang, 'Ma, aalis ako.' Kaagad, payag ako. Kung anong oras gusto niyang umuwi, uuwi siya na walang sita-sita, ni wala akong tawag sa cell phone. Tama ba yang ginagawa mo? Huwag kang magmalaking 18 years old ka na. Walang pwedeng makialam sayo. Akin ka,

elements of a great

Maintenance, aesthetics from a 30-year veteran

Inc, which celebrates its 30th year of providing Filipino builders a one-stop shop of complete quality home building materials-

WILCON BUILDERS DEPOT AND SUPPLY and improvement tips for the everyday Pinoy homeowner.

Ceramic tiles can bring quality, value and beauty to any room of your home. from ceramic tiles to appliances and furni- While they may come in durable forms, ture, shares valuable home maintenance they need regular care to provide lasting

> performance and visual appeal, especially when they are in heavy traffic areas of home.

Did you know that all you need do to maintain the longevity of your tiles is simply to use water and a simple detergent in cleaning them?

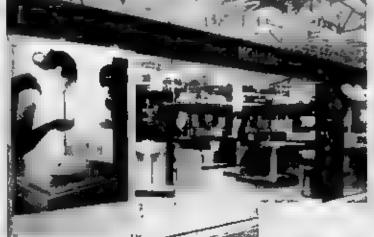
For cleaning glazed ceramic tiles: Refrain from using scouring powders or other abrasives that can scratch the finish of

Vacuum regularly to remove dirt and gritty particles, followed by a mop or a sponge dampened with a household cleaner.

For unglazed tiles: Clean unglazed-tile walls and floors in a similar manner. However, dampen mop or sponge with a solution of water and "soapless detergent".

Granite tiles or stones: Granite tiles and slabs are a stylish and practical choice for your home. Due to their hardness, versatility and their resistance to hear and other

MAINTENANCE/ H2



Samsung launches new H-series refrigerator

SAMSUNG ELECTRONICS COLID, THE world leader in advanced technology solutions, announced the launch of its long-awasted H-series refrigerator that combines a stylish look and feel with leading-edge technology.

Powered by some of the most advanced refrigeration technology and full of amazingly convenient features, the Samsung refrigerator H-series performs as beautifully as it looks.

Make the most of your time in the kitchen, whether you're cooking or just enjoying your family's new favorite room. Available in a range of stylish finishes and with useful features like the easy handle, the Samsung refrigerator H-series is designed to make your food fresher and life easier. Choose the model and features that best match your needs.

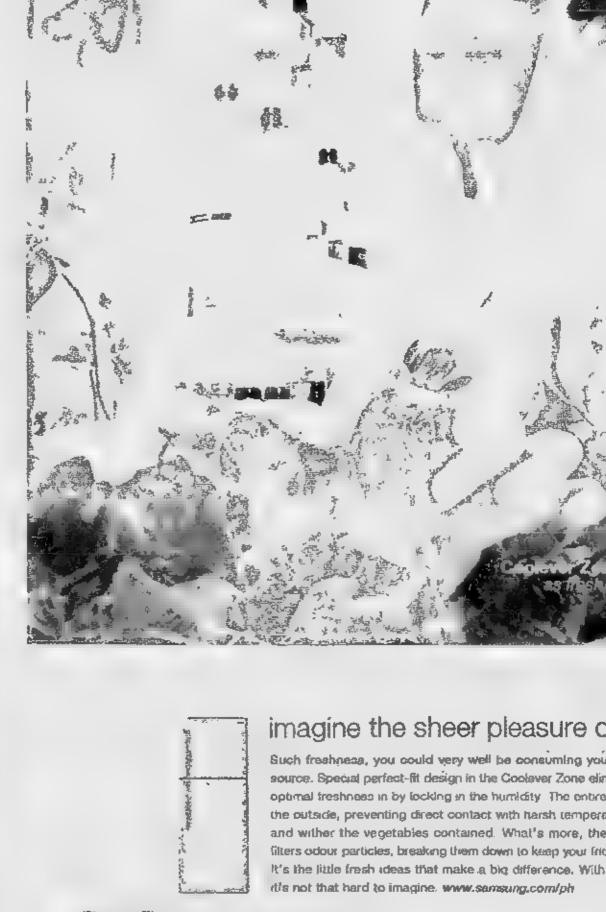
The H-Series features Samsung's exclusive Twin Cooling System technology, allowing the different freezer and refrigerator compartments to be controlled and cooled independently, as well as preventing the mixing of odors between the two compartments. By offering this temperature control flexibility consumers can also keep different food fresher longer.

The Samsung Refrigerator H-Series makes a bold statement in any kitchen with a seamless exterior design that comprises a flawlessly flush flat door with hidden hinges and the sophisticated design of a built-in LED digital display unit, making it the first on the market to become a truly built-in side-byside refrigerator.

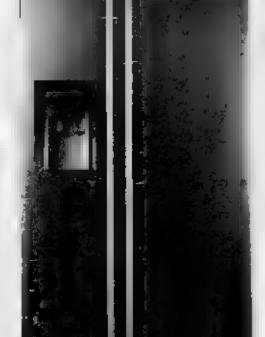
Functionality plays a large part in the H-Series with a range of features designed to give the consumer all they need from the freshest food to convenient storage. An ice cube and crusher dispenser keeps those drinks cool in the hot summer months, whilst the in-built water filter provides the purest water as if straight from a mountain spring.

Food storage also plays an important part in the design of the H-Series, with a large box storage creating functional space for those awkwardly shaped items. Frozen foods also get the special treatment with Samsung's exclusive Cool Select feature, instantly freezing frozen goods.

The H Series is comprised of RSH1NEMH with Digital Display Door and RSHIDEMH with water and ice dispenser. These two stunning masterpieces are now available at your favorite appliance shops.







imagine the sheer pleasure of purer living

Such freshness, you could very well be consuming your food straight from the source. Special perfect-fit design in the Goolsver Zone eliminates gaps, maintaining optimal freshness in by locking in the humidity. The entire container is cooled from the outside, preventing direct contact with harsh temperatures that could damage and wither the vegetables contained. What's more, the Silver Nano Deodonser filters odour particles, breaking them down to keep your fridge smelling clean always. It's the little fresh ideas that make a big difference. With Samsung's new fridges,

Silver Nino & Coolever Zone



Special PROJECT

Splendor of Elements

 $\langle h(y), h(y) \rangle_{\mathbb{R}^{n}} + c \|h(y)\|_{L^{\infty}} \leq c \|h(y)\|_{L^{\infty}} + c \|h(y)\|_{L^{\infty}} + c \|h(y)\|_{L^{\infty}}$

BIJMS FINE FURNITURE, THE PORERUNNER IN ONE stop furniture shopping and one of the biggest furniture chains in the Philippines aggesties with the Philippine Institute of Interior Designers (PJID), an organization advocation cacing the arrangements of professional interior de signer three custos and lyopenessing a moltanism cond lines yes brown as an interior department of the contract of the con m 3 in Avalla Mall

The material color pulsan and inextinate color the theme of Elements Among the talented interior depiener of HID weignes Almeria, hou Hivano, Chio Par and Grains Allangue who wanglowed the space design musicipieces consisting this qualities of wood, leather, glass and meral Designer curator, Marcelo Alease of Philipsychility in the copportunity given to their

organization to show case talent and ingenuity. We would like to the old like for the plant of the parties in the case of the parties in panel also for many

whether its correction living space or furnishings to story or porare of fice. Elements provided a splash of creative intricate attention to detail, and unique crafts manship, the interest of everyone who mingled in the exhibit the thought the mission of uplifting the living standard of the content of the

pinos, Blims furniture once again offered new that perfectly fit to an accellent lifestyle.









5 years of style and elegance

FURNITALIA, THE COUNTRY'S EXCLU sive distributor of Italy's premier home and office furniture brands, cerebrates five years of elegance this year

FURNitalia is known for Italian furniture brands used by royalty, celebrities and international designers. Its flagship brand, Poltrona Frau, is a prestigious furniture maker with showrooms in New York, London, Paris and Tokyo. The lifestyle store is also home to foremost Italian brands such as Molteni&C, Giorgetti, Flexform, Fiam, Fontana Arte, Penta, Serralunga, Comfort and Longhi, Thonet and others. It's high time you live larger than life and embrace magnificence only at FURN talia

Visit the FURNital a showroom at 30th Street corner Rizal Drive, Crescent Park, West Bonifacio, Global City, Taguig City or call 819-1887

> FURNitalia's luxurious interiors the market.





LG ELECTRONICS JOINS WORLD FOOD EXPO 2007

LG Electronics was one of the presenters in the World Food Expo 2007, one of the biggest food expos in the country, held recently at the World Trade Center. LG Electronics presented its latest state-of-the-art refrigerators GR-B207TLC and GR-G602JLC, which boast of eco-friendly, health-promoting features. LG Electronics is also the first brand to adopt the linear compressor in its refrigerators, which provides more energy-efficient cooling than other refrigerators using traditional cooling technologies. The new refrigerator models feature elegant, ergonomic designs for easier use and luxurious aluminum handles. LG Electronics is a global leader and technology innovator in consumer electronics, home appliances, and mobile communications. Present during the Wofex event were LG Electronics marketing communications and PR manager Lalaine Reyes (left), Nancy Reyes-Lumen, editor-in-chief of Cook Magazine. and LG Electronics product officer Malou Martinguilla.

HCG's 'touch free' bathroom

A TOUCH FREE BATHROOM, MOST OF US think is only for the physically challenged individual. But as we go more modern these days, a touch free bathroom matches every need of an individual. People nowadays are getting more health conscious; they want their homes to be clean specially their bathroom. Parents make sure every corner of their home safer and cleaner for their children. Young and old really enjoy using a clean bathroom.

As the leading manufacturer of bathroom fixtures, HCG is very particular with these concerns of parents and every individual. HCG introduces its water closet sensor, AF101. HCG AF101 is easy to install, not needing special tools because construction and wire connection is not required, applicable to most tank type water closets. This new sensor also has an adjustable a flush volume for different requirements of the user which guarantees water conservaanon. Use AF101 for a more hygienic, touch free and emoyable use of your bathroom For more information and product specifications, log on to www.hcg.com.ph.



ELECTROLUX PRESS CLUB LAUNCHED

Electrolux recently launched its press club at Café Ysabel for media. friends from broadsheets and food magazines. Invitees were given an exclusive peak into Electrolux's latest product happenings, details regarding its club membership and an introduction to its first newsletter. Electrolux's general manager Thomas Hong graced the event and shared some of the company's insights on today's heart of every home-the modern kitchen. Throughout the special luncheon chef extraordinaire Gene Gonzales whipped up world-class dishes for the media using the innovative and thoughtful kitchen designs of Electrolux. As each recipe was showcased, thef Gene expressed his thoughts on the performance of the brand; which dearly withstood the menus' lineup of light and heavy-duty cooking. Shown are, from left, Electrolax product marketing manager Terry Sales, Electrolax marketing manager Dexter Ngo, Electrolux marketing communications assistant Jarmaine Borja, Nancy Harel, Desiree Ching, chef Gene Gonzales and Electrolux general manager Thomas Hong.

Maintenance, aesthetics

From page H1

forms of stress, the choice of granite tiles for your home is a great investment and one that should give you a tremendous pride of ownership.

Stone-cold gorgeous

Did you know that the natural production of granite takes millions of years? For lasting durability and stone-cold gorgeous design, granite may be the best idea for your home.

Consider the area where you intend to install your granite tiles. Make sure that factors such as moisture levels, foot traf fic, and slip resistance are carefully considered.

Expect color variations in your batch of granite tile. Remember, granite is a natural material. Use these natural color variations found in your batch to your advantage. Get as creative with your layout as you can.

Lay out all of your granite tiles in a dry run before applying mortar or other chosen adhesive agents.

granite tiles on an uneven, dirty or wet gramte tile flooring or countertops. Don't allow dire and grit to remain on the surface of your granite tiles. These elements can affect the finish over time and take away from the natural beauty of granite. Don't use acid based cleaners or other agents on your granite tiles. Don't use scouring powders, steel wool, or other abrasive materials to remove stains from your granite tiles.

Toilet leaks

Did you know that many toilets leak without any obvious indications of trouble? Here are some signs of a leaking toi-

 If you have to jiggle the handle to make a toiler stop running.

 If there are sounds coming from a toilet unit even when it is not being used.

 If you have to hold the handle down to allow the tank to empty. It's either that the chain strap is too long and doesn't fit the flapper or ball high enough for it to float on its own.

Wood TLC

With just a little TLC, genuine hardwood furniture will last a lifetime-several lifetimes, in fact. Consider grandfather's roll-top desk, a valued treasure passed on from generation to generation. Taking good care of your solid hardwood furniture ensures its longevity. It's easy and largely a matter of common sense.

Did you know that it's surprisingly simple to protect and enhance hardwood's natural beauty? All that's needed is some tender, loving care. Here are a few tips:

Read the manufacturer's care directions for wood furniture carefully and keep them handy for future reference.

Hardwood furniture surfaces also can be cleaned with a mild non-alkaline soap and water. Use the suds on a damp sponge or cloth, but be sure to pretest the solution on an out-of-sight-section to make sure it doesn't damage the finish. Dry immediately with a soft cloth and buff lightly, following the grain.

Hardwood finishes benefit from an occasional waxing or polishing. A paste wax can be applied every six to 12 months. Remove old wax first with a mild non-alkaline soap and water solu-

Avoid waxing urethane-finished furnihire. Waxing these surfaces causes them to gather dust and dirt rather than repel

From hardware store to builders' depot

Occupying several thousand square meters of floor space and housing several thousands more of top-notch brands on rows upon rows of metal racks and bays. A play area for kids and a coffee shop for customers wanting to take a break. Fully air-conditioned, with piped in music to boot. These are just a few of the many reasons that make a customer's shopping experience at Wilcon Bunders' Depot truly pleasurable.

Such features make Wilcon Builders' Depot a superstore in this age of harmed lifestyles. It's the same reason why Wilcon considers building its depots its biggest achievement in all its 30 years.

Since the opening of the first depot in 2003, it have managed to revolutionize the way people in this country-from Here are some don'ts: Don't install homeowners to construction professionals-procure home building materials. Acsubfloor. Don't leave spills to sit on your cording to EVP chief operating officer Rose Ong, it has introduced "lifestyle shopping" to the home improvement industry. Convenient shopping and the biggest selection of home improvement products, from tiles and whirlpools to appliance and furniture, truly make Wilcon Builders' Depot a household name.

In a short span of four years, Wilcon has built six depots all over the metro, and one in Davao. These, on top of the original seven supply stores, abide by one simple mission: to make customers satisfied and happy with whatever they purchase at Wilcon

Build, Create, Innovate.

After being an industry leader for almost three decades since 1977, Wilcon Builders' reinvents itself with its latest evolution: The Depot. Its very first depot store opened in 2003 at a busy location along the Alabang-Zapote road. This one-stop shop was envisioned to be a store for all types of consumers, be they architects, contractors, or homeowners. Its wide range of products caters to different market niches, all the while maintaining its stand on selling quality products to suit the customer's budget.

Though Wilcon is known for its wide selection of quality tiles, its shift to the depot-type store has also expanded its do-it-vourself line with more items offering the customer more variety and choice to suit all types of needs.

MAINTENANCE/H4



Special PROJECT

Widescreen monitors are taking over!

THIS IS GREAT NEWS FOR MOVIE ADDICTS, worksholies and gamers as ViewSonic, the leader in visual technology and currently the leading brand in the United States, launches its latest 19inch widescreen LCD product line to provide the ultimate convenience and viewing pleasure.

With this comprehensive 19-inch widescreen product line, oft-use programs may now be viewed side by side, spreadsheets and blueprints become fully visible, photos and digital art get exquisite detail, and PC users now have more room for as many toolbars as they want. Moreover, DVD-holics and gamers now also get to enjoy the ultimate in movie and gaming experience

Who said a 19-inch widescreen LCD monitor has to cost like gold? ViewSonic proves them wrong with the latest VA1912w and VA1912wb widescreen LCD monitor models, Ideal for both

business and private uses, these monitors are attractively priced widescreen LCDs that offer users extra screen space for enhanced productivity, flexibility and viewing pleasure.

These ViewSonic monitors are also capable of multiple document windows or playback of HDquality movies in their original aspect ratios, combining optima, performance with an elegant and timeless silver black design.

As if it weren't enough, there's also ViewSonic's VX1932wm that is perfect for gamers since it supports HDCF and comes certified with the Vista premium logo, it also offers the latest Dynamic Contrast Ratio (DCR) technology, which increases the contrast ratio by up to 2000:1 to provide for more range of color saturation, and increase the reality of .mage performance.

To accompany first-class depictions with its

whopping visual features and to deliver only the best sound quality, these new 19" widescreen LCDs integrate stereo speakers in the stylish and slim silver bezel so settings may comfortably be adjusted via clearly structured on-screen menus. To prevent unauthorized changes to monitor settings and to ensure that the displays won't be turned off accidentally, it also has a lock function for the OSD and

In leading the market's transition towards 19-inch widescreen LCDs, ViewSonic's full range of 19" LCD monstors offer value, making it possible for consumers and professionals in extend their desktop LCD investment for gaming, video and simpafied viewing of multiple documents, simultaneously.

For pricing and other information, call Innovista Technologies at 723-4273. More information about ViewSoruc are also gvallable at www.viewsoruc.com

Whirlpool appliance sale launched

EXATECH ING, PHILIPPINE DISTRIB Fator of Whirlpool home and kitcher appliances, has officially launched its
Whitlpool appliance sale to give customers an opportunity to avail of the
company's high-quality products.

The Whitlpool appliance sale is comveniently located at the second and third floors of the new Exatech head

Rodriguez Sr. street in Quezon Citys · Castomers can avail of as much : 50-percent discount on Whirlpool appliances including washing machine. refrigerators, and electric farm, amount

office at 56 Cordillera Street corner 馬

According to Exatech marketing manager Joy Catils, "What's about the Whirlpool appliance sale is that the items are on discounted prime everyday, unlike other stores that go on sale on a limited time frame. Also, customers can expect the best possible deals, prices, and customer service in the Whirlpool sale,**

* **Moreover, Whirlpool customers are usured that they will be provided the best after-sales service possible, regardless of the product purchased. The Whirlpool brand is associated with customer satisfaction. We intend to extend that high level of service to all our eustomers and buyers," Catilis added) 🕫 Whirlpool appliances are known worldwide for their high quality, stateof the art technology, performance, durability, design, and ease of use. The products are available in a wide variety of models, prim ranges, and de-

· For more information on the Whirlpool warehouse sale and available Whirlpool-products; interested customers may contact Exatech Inc at (632)712-0535.

3M launches high-performance adhesive

3M INTRODUCES TO THE PHILIP- liquid mess and less pines a globally trusted technology in wastage. the construction industry-the VHB Structural Giazing Tape, Architects and contractors can now experience increased productivity, design flexibility and durability all in one pro-

The 3M VHB Structural Glazing Tape utilizes high-performance adhesives that have "very high bond" strength and reliable long-term hold mg power It is specifically recommended for glass building exteriors, whether low or high-rise, replacing commonly used structural silicone pealants, gaskets or mechanical fasteners. Imagine the speed in finishing projects because of no curing time, no

Invited foreign speaker Ken Go, 3M Asia Pacific technical engineer, further remforced how thus product has proven its efficiency and reliability through a seminar backed up by technical bulletins and existing applications in various countries. Interested local fabricators were

some of these actual building projects.

For more than 20 years, engineers from Australia to Brazil, the United seal many surfaces in commercial con-



States to the United Arab Emirates, also shown pictures and designs of and Asian regions such as Singapore. and Ind.a, have all been specifying 3M VHB tapes to permanently bond and

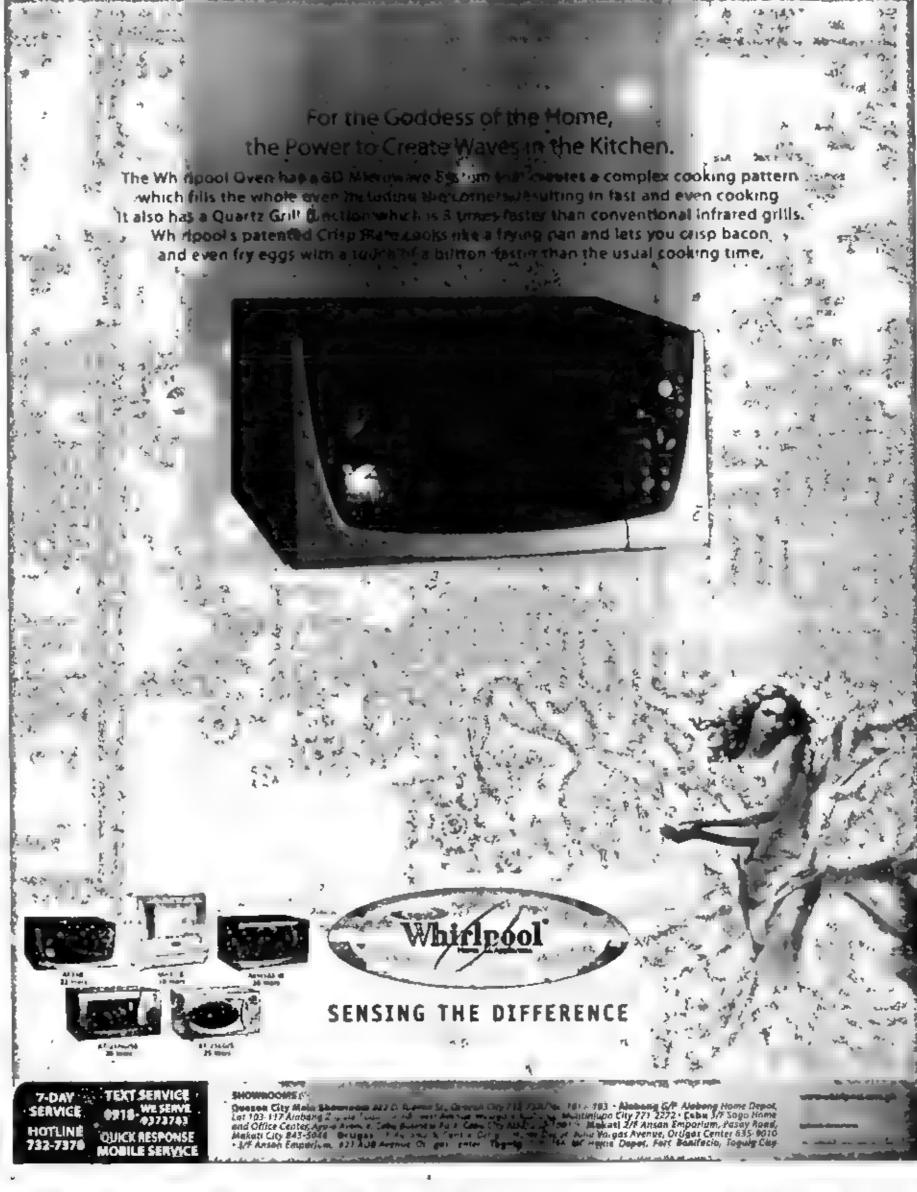
struction. For faster, reliable glass glazing technology, build it with 3M VHB Structura, Glazing Tape

For more information, log on to www.3M com/vhb/structura.glazing.



Appliances combines style and performance to meet the high demends of fast-paced living Taking into account the high cost of living and non-stop surge of the prices of commodities, Fujidenzo has developed appliances designed to give quality performance at the most consumer-friendly prices. Fundanzo carries a wide range of appliances to choose from: Single & Twincub Washers for all your nundry needs, Microwave Ovens for those quick meals, and Chast & Upright Freezers for your cooling and food storage needs. For more information on Fujidenzo Appliances, you may contact 712-0535 / 712-7073 or email sales@exatech.com.ph.





Special PROJECT

'There's nothing quite as tasteful as your own GE Monogram'

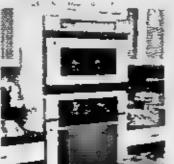
A TV STUDIO IN NEW YORK FOR MARTHA VIEWERS. Stewart, the Trump World tower in New York City, a film stage in Atlanta for Alton Brown, why

Inspired by the seamless and polished perfection of GE Monogram integrated appliances, their kitchens are no put-on showcases but are essential bons fide work spaces, to make that powerful, compelling statement. The Monogram collection incorporates the best of both European and American design into a superior series of professional type free-standing and builtin appliances in refrigeration and cooking prod-

The new Monogram Trivection wall oven lets you enjoy food prepared to a delectable perfection in up to five times faster than a conventional oven. Its remarkable versatility uses a trio of processes with its thermal, convection, and microwave cooking-to bake, broil, roast, warm, and proof food. All the good things the hit daytime TV show "Martha" shares with millions of

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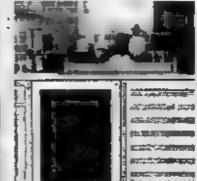
Impressively installed in the 90th floor New in the world is Donald Trump's Wine Reserve



SUCH a pleasure to preparel Watch Martha Stewart make tasteful meals with Monogram electronic wall ovens with Trivection technology,



⁴ THE 72" professional bottomfreezer refrigerator's stainless exterior, tubular handles and chamfered, hand-finished edges make it a perfect pick for Alton Brown's huge scientific kitchen.



York penthouse of the tallest residential building

THE Monogram wine reserve with privacy glass lets Trump readily enjoy his favorite $\gamma_{\rm e}$ varietals and finest wines in style at the convenience of his own private retreat.

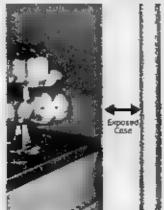
with privacy glass, worthy of his most revered labels. It has an innovative liquid crystal technology that allows you to turn glass from opaque to clear with a simple press of a button, while allowing a range of precise temperature settings ideal and essential for wine storage.

Conveying a sense of solidity and beauty, the Monogram 72° built-in Bottom-freezer refrigerafor has an advanced temperature Management (System with multi-Shelf Air Tower to evenly distribute air throughout the refrigerator, Upfront electronic controls with digital readout also allow precise temperature settings to fit perfectly the scientist, chef, and entertainer Alton Brown's love of cooking with science,

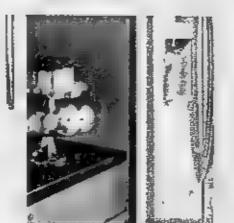
So what do Monogram users have to say about 3 the choices they made? "There's nothing quite as a tasteful as having your own Monogram."

For more information, visit or call the GE Monogram Experience Centre at Serendra (856-2518) or the Shangri-La showroom (631-8282) Log on to www.cyaindustries.com.

Appliances







CustomStyle (counter-depth)

introducing GE CustomStyle™, side-by-side refs that's big on size and style and huge on function.

Fitting perfectly on most kitchen interiors without socrificing an inch of its huge, 25 cu. ft. capacity, its counter-death styling blends almost seamlessly with surrounding cabinetry. Now you can achieve that built in look of most modern kitchens, without the extra cost of renovation.

What's more, it has Climatekeeper 274 System, a technology that provides exceptional food preservation by using two evaporators instead of one. Now, your vegetables stay garden-fresh and frazen foods are kept frazen langer.

Give your kitchen the elegance it deserves. Experience the big difference with GE CustomStyle refs, Extra large never tooked this good.

Big. Brilliant. Beautiful.





PSH25PSTSV

with integrated Dispersion Christofeeper2** System Prease Fill Technology

PSH25MSTSV

25 Ox. P. Conton Style* with integrated Dispenser ChmoteKeeper2** System



with integrated dispense



PSI23NSTSV

PS123SGRSV

Available of leading appliance stores nationwide. Official Distributor CYA Industries, Inc. #103 Mercedes Avenue, Brgy: San Miguel. Pasig City. Showrooms: Shangri-La (02) 531-8282 Giorietta 4 (02) 887-0075 •MC Home Depot Fort Bonitacio (02) 815-8875 Service Hotlins (02) 649-3456 Nationwide service and call centers available.

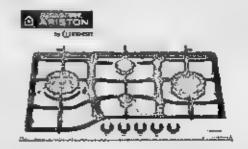
PSC23NSTSS

Scratch-resistant feature measures up to streamlined kitchen details

IMAGINE HAVING THE KITCHEN OF your dreams finally come true. No limits, total freedom in design, tailored to match your personal style and creative yearning, to your home's "landmark" - the kitchen, It's not just a matter of aesthetics and sophistication. More than that, it's definitely an investment that should last. But have you ever wondered how to keep it pristine and at the same time functional? That means, to actually use it and, at the same time, care for it?

That is why Ariston by Indesit, supporter of incomparable evolution in design and technological solutions, presents cooktops that are scratch-resistant. Although scratches are hard to avoid due to constant use and accidents, the unique textured, hardwearing stainless steel finish makes Ariston resistant to "everyday" scratches otherwise common in ordinary stainless. It's even resistant to smudges caused by greasy fingerprints, an annovative feature exclusive to Anston. It lets you have the perfect balance between performance and your evolving needs as a user. See for yourself this revolutionary feature, now available in models PH750 RT (AX) GH, PF 760 AS (AX), and PH 640 MST (AX). So you spend less time worrying and more time enjoying your kitchen experience,

See the new anti-scratch cooktop only from Ariston by Indesit at its showroom at 2/L Serendra, Bonifacio High Street, Bonifacio Global City, Taguig City (856-2518), 4th level Shangri La Plaza Mail (631-8282), and MC Home Depot Fort Bonifacio (815-8875) Ariston appliances are also available at all leading appliance stores.



SCRATCH-resistant cooktops are exclusive from Ariston; Italian-built that stays scratchfree even when the cooking gets rough. Ariston is manufactured by Indesit Company, Italy's leading appliance manufacturer.

Maintenance, aesthetics from a 30-year veteran

********** 80

EBATERS BON

Maintaining the same level of service and care, Wilcon continues to offer comfort and convenience to its customers by still provid ing cool air-conditioned stores and helpful personnel to assist in any needs that may arise. Aside from this, all depots (Alabang, Balintawak, Libis and Pasong Tamo) house a coffee shop where architects, contractors or the homeowner can conduct discussions or simply take a break,

Today, the company continues to offer innovation and quality products through both companies Wilcon Builders' Supply and Wilcon Builders' Depot.

Wilcon recognized by DTI

This April 17, the Department of Trade and Industry awarded Wilcon the Silver Seal "Certified Establishment" official approval, subtitled "Upholding Consumer Rights and Ethical Business Practice "

Being the only hardware store in the country to get the official government recognition thus far, Wilcon successfully met DTI's stringent requirements. Some of these requirements are: Compliance to all Fair Trade Laws (e.g., Consumer Act, Price Act, Price Tag Law, PS/ICC Laws); management of effective and efficient customer relations (consumer welfare desk and resolution of complaint policies); administration of social commitment programs.

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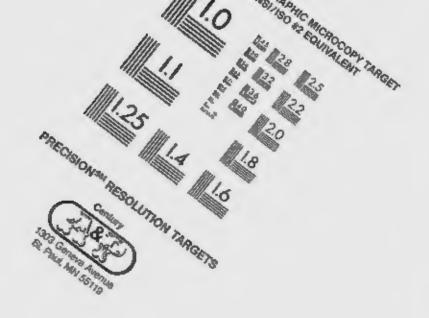
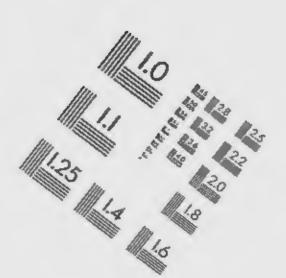
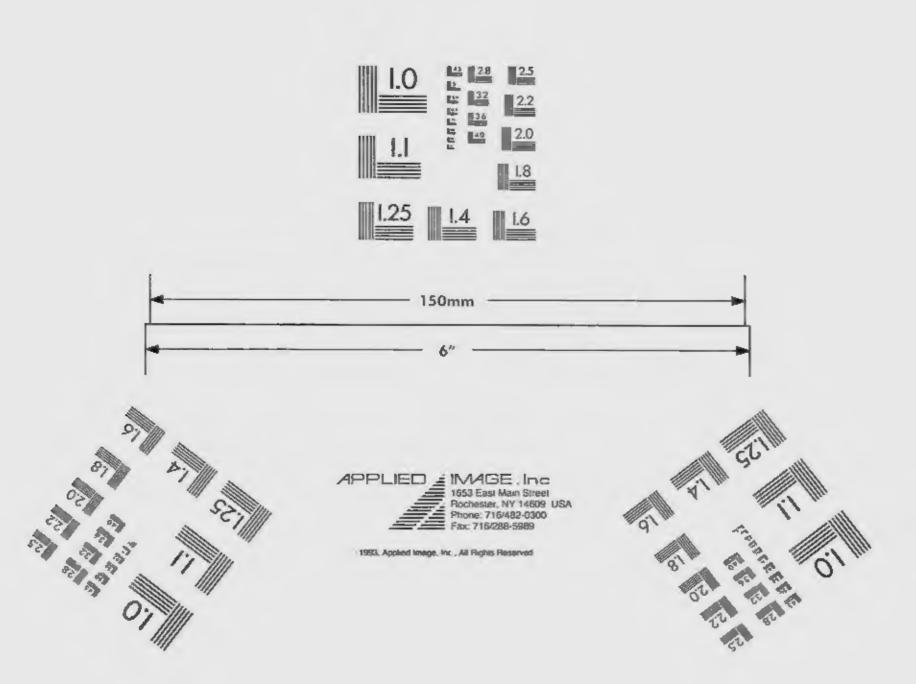


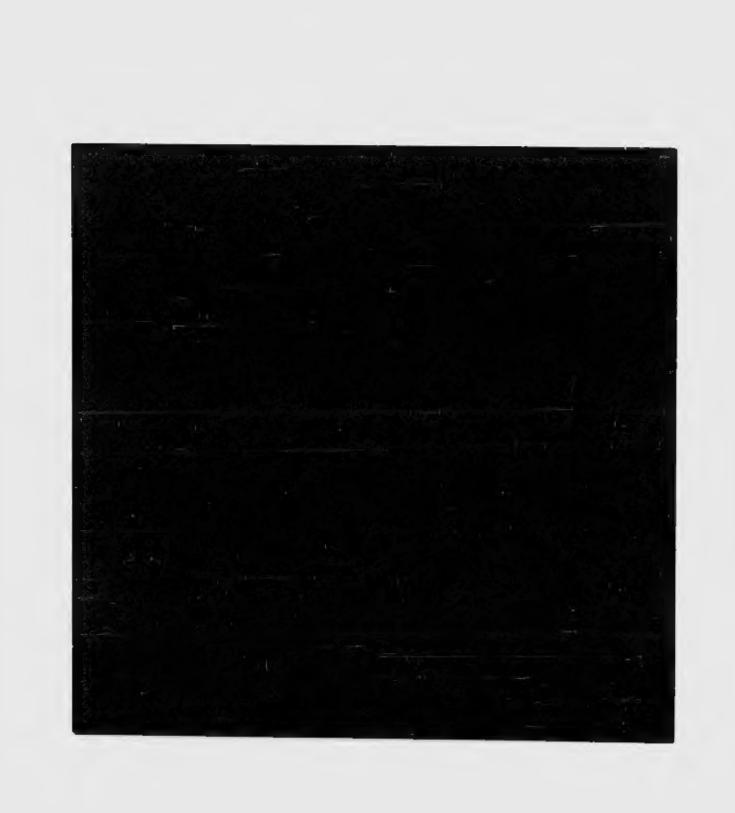
IMAGE EVALUATION TEST TARGET (MT-3)





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PHILIPPINE DAIL INQUIRER MANILA, PHILIPPINES

OCTOBER
16 THRU 31
2007

REEL 415

END DEREWIND